

A MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

==BY==

**GOVERNOR
PETER NORBECK**



With Comments on
**Proposed Constitutional
Amendments**

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A MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

**WITH COMMENTS ON
PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENTS**

BY PETER NORBECK

REDFIELD, SOUTH DAKOTA, :: JANUARY, 1918

A Message to the People of South Dakota

With Comments on the Proposed Constitutional Amendments

By **PETER NORBECK,**
Governor of South Dakota

On the second of January, 1917, I took the oath of office and was inaugurated as Governor of the State of South Dakota. One year of my administration is now passed and I take pleasure in rendering an account of my stewardship to the people of this great commonwealth. The citizens of the state are interested in knowing what has been done and what it is hoped to accomplish for the state and its people. The first year of my administration has been an eventful one and it likewise has been an eventful year in the history of the state and nation. Very greatly against the desire of the whole American people, we have been compelled to take up the gage of battle in a world wide war upon the broad plane of humanity, and for the betterment and future security of ourselves and all the peoples of the world. The acts of terrorism and frightfulness of the Prussian War machine, typifying the spirit of autocratic world domination and rule, as exemplified by the sinking of the Lusitanian, the destruction of Belgium and Serbia, and the slaughter of innocent women and children in unfortified towns as well as war ridden territory, could, on no grounds be longer countenanced. The allied nations are making a united stand against the foe to democracy and Christian civilization and eternal peace and have pledged their entire fighting force and strength and wealth and manhood to bring about that devoutly to be prayed for condition of universal brotherhood throughout the nations of the world. From thousands of our homes in the state have gone forth our brave and noble sons and brothers, the flower of our manhood, to enlist in the army and the navy in response to the call of their country. The parents have been asked to contribute to the liberty loan. The mothers, sisters, and daughters have joined and are assisting to the utmost of their power the noble work of the Red Cross and similar organizations. The people of the state have responded cheerfully and each time given more than was asked; they have realized to the fullest extent that loyal, wholesome, whole hearted support from the people at home is one of the things necessary to enable our American soldiers at the front to help win this war. America has never wanted for able soldiers and seamen in any good cause and this in large part accounts for the greatness of our republic. The drive for the first and second liberty loan bonds, the campaign for the Red Cross and the enthusiastic movement to raise the necessary funds for the work of the Y. M. C. A. and similar organizations has aroused our people to such a pitch of patriotic fervor that in every household throughout the state our people are viewing with each other to do their bit and to contribute in some important way to the comfort, protection, safety and convenience of our boys who have enlisted in the army and navy, and it is a true statement to make that we are doing our utmost to help win this war.

SOUTH DAKOTA

We are all proud of our state, of its people and of its progress. Our state's resources are wonderful and its future will be greater than its present. It is all important that we come to a full realization of our own possibilities and work together for the common good. I count myself a young man, but it seems only like yesterday since the present valuable corn land of the state could find no buyers at \$2.00 or \$3.00 per acre. There was not a railroad in the territory of South Dakota when my parents established their home in Clay County, within a few miles of the famous, old first school house in the territory. Sioux City was the nearest railroad town. Well do I remember the summer of '76 when the caravans of hundreds and hundreds of covered wagons passed by my father's farm going west in search of the newly discovered gold fields of the Black Hills. Little did these people realize that there were better opportunities and a greater chance of success by accepting these fertile lands which the government at that time of

ferred them free. It was with great pride that I saw the laying of the foundation of the State University within a mile of the old log school house. Thru the persistent and earnest effort of the farmers, land came into value, cities sprang up, State institutions were established as necessity demanded, and while we are truly a young state, our progress compares favorably with any state in America.

PROGRESS AND DIFFICULTIES

The very progress along many lines during the last few decades has brought new problems to our door. The coming of the railroads was hailed with great delight and surely it was a blessing but with it came the question of transportation rates with which the state and national governments have been wrestling for many years. In many cases the rates have been so high as to take profits away from the producer; in many instances this has been due to a desperate effort on the part of the railroad management to pay dividends on watered stock in order that the promoters may prosper.

The improvements in farm machinery and farm methods have also brought with them vexing problems; larger investments were required for farming, new and expensive machinery had to be added each year, the price was high and the collection agent persistent.

No longer do we supply our own necessities of life. We use flour made in Minneapolis, shoes made in Boston, machinery from Chicago, clothing from New York, automobiles from Detroit. Each industry or trust, as the case may be, has levied its tribute upon the western farmer. Sometimes the price was justified by the service rendered, more often it was based upon greed of the men who were in position to make prices.

The taxation systems of both state and federal governments have been unjust. The producer and the laboring man have always paid more than their share. The average farmers were too busy making a living for themselves and families to give the various problems careful consideration and study. Very often has he cast his vote against the very man who has fought his battles. There has also been a lack of united effort and organization on the part of the sufferers.

It is argued now that prices on farm products are high and that, therefore, no one should complain. To my mind the prices at this time are, all things considered, quite satisfactory, but this is the first time in the fifty year settlement of the state that this has been the case. Many farmers have accumulated a competence, but it has been done by persistent and continued strenuous work and self-denial on the part of themselves and their families. Certainly in good times like these they are entitled to their full share. The price paid the farmers is a very small part of what the consumer has to pay.

When an auto goes wrong there are usually several causes and so it is with our economic system. There is no one remedy, no sure cure, but relief lies in effort in several directions. Some relief can be secured by better methods, by raising those crops to which the country is especially adapted. Some relief can be secured in co-operation as has so well been demonstrated by the success of the Farmers Co-operative Grain Elevators in the state, by the success of the Farmers Co-operative Union which has nearly ten thousand members in our state and by the success of the Equity, Grange and similar organizations, which have thousands of members among our best farmers. But there is a limit to what can be done even along these lines. The state can, by aiding more directly in the co-operative ideas, bring the consumer and the producer closer together, reduce the middleman's profit and aid materially in securing for the producer and the consumer a fair share of what is really his.

The local merchant suffers with the rest. The system of distribution is such that he is asked to pay exorbitant prices for goods. The farmers with smaller incomes try to relieve the situation by buying thru the mail order houses in the cities, indirectly contributing to the up building of a system which in turn oppresses them. Greater prosperity on the farm will mean greater prosperity for the merchant who in turn pays more taxes and aids in the up building of the community. Many of our evils are nation wide and can only be dealt with effectively by the Federal Government, thru government regulation.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Following are the Proposed Constitutional Amendments as they will appear upon the 1918 Ballots and following each Amendment appears Comments and Explanation.

It is my purpose in this address to discuss more especially what has been done by the state government to promote the welfare of all our people and to advance our agricultural interests to the highest state of prosperity. Much has been done and much more is possible of accomplishment. Our people must be enthused to take a greater interest and to co-ordinate their forces and co-operate in bringing about certain necessary reforms. Progress has, in my mind, been much retarded in South Dakota owing to the fact that we have a constitution which is so restrictive. It does not only prohibit the state from engaging in necessary enterprises but in many cases has actually prevented individuals from working out their own relief thru organized effort. It is, in my opinion, unworkable if not obsolete. It is entirely different from the Federal constitution and it is much more restricted than the constitutions of the other states. We feel this keenly now, after we, as a people, have changed our ideas about the functions of government. It is not so many years since the majority of our people held to the old democratic theory that the government was best which governed least. It was believed that the function of a government should be largely limited to preserve law and order and to maintain a good system of schools. We have come to see now that the functions of government can be greatly enlarged to the advantage of all and we have found that our constitution does not adapt itself to the changed conditions.

In some particulars amendments have been made to the constitution and to the end that a new constitution might be framed removing these unnecessary restrictions, it was proposed two years ago to hold a constitutional convention for the purpose of providing a new constitution. This amendment proposing the holding of a constitutional convention was submitted to our people at the last general election. I met with opposition from those who were conservative in their views, but most of the opposition was promoted and developed by those who represented interests which might be affected by any legislation enacted after these restrictive provisions in our constitution were eliminated. The plan to hold a convention met with decided opposition from the railway and express companies and of some banks and bankers, as well as of those engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor, and these interests received the assistance of those who are continually and perpetually opposed to anything new, who believe that all wisdom is buried in the past and that new things are dangerous. At toe time of its adoption, the constitution was sufficient for the then present needs. It does not, however, meet modern requirements. Our laws with reference to taxation would have been changed radically several years ago were it not that a constitutional provision made it impossible. As originally drafted the constitution did not permit the forming of drainage districts nor even the building of roads and in fact prevented the state from engaging in any work of internal improvement no matter how necessary such work might appear to be. Our people have been slow to adopt amendments. A typical situation in this behalf is found in the result when an attempt was first made by the people living in the western portion of our state to have the constitution amended so as to permit of the organization of irrigation districts. All that they were asking was that the constitution might be so worded as to enable the legislature to pass laws which would, permit them to work out their own problem at their own expense. The legislature in 1913 submitted the question to the people and at the general election in November 1914 it was defeated by an overwhelming majority. The legislature of 1915, believing that the people had not understood the real purpose of the amendment, again submitted it to the vote of the people and at the general election in November, 1916, it carried.

Upon three different occasions attempts have been made to amend the article of the constitution relating to taxation, and each time the people were misled

by the same interests which have always opposed all reforms, and the amendments were each time defeated. The only purpose in amending the constitution is to remove some restriction and enable the legislature to pass laws for the purpose of advancing the welfare of the state. I have seen very many meritorious amendments submitted to a vote of the people and I have witnessed the almost violent opposition of those of our people who are too conservative for advancement, who fear to try anything new, as well as of those business interests which oppose any change for fear that the new laws might affect their present advantage.

Five years ago while a member of the State Senate I introduced into the legislature a resolution submitting a constitutional amendment for the purpose of providing a Board of Control of three members to have charge of all state institutions (except educational) and to take the place of two boards having a total membership of eight persons. Having introduced the joint resolution and feeling that it was the proper thing to do I was, therefore, very - much surprised to see it defeated at the following election. I am hopeful that the constitutional amendments submitted by the last session of the legislature during the first year of my present term as governor will receive different treatment.

It is well to bear in mind that amendments to the constitution must be made in conformity with the rules laid down in the constitution itself. Therefore, when a proposed amendment is submitted by the legislature as a revised article or section it includes much old matter originally contained in the constitution, and which is to be left without change, and some new matter, in many cases of merely a few words, which are sufficient to change the meaning and accomplish the result desired. I have known times when voters voted against a proposed amendment because something in the article did not meet with their favor when, as a matter of fact, it was old matter that was not affected by a favorable or an unfavorable vote. The voter should ascertain what is new matter in each proposed amendment submitted, or in other words, what is the particular part of it that it is proposed to change.

Upon my earnest recommendation the legislature submitted a number of proposed amendments to our state constitution and these will be voted upon at our next November election. Most of these proposed amendments are sought for the purpose of authorizing the legislature to enact laws for the development of the natural resources of the state.

WATER POWER AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Article 13 of the Constitution, Relating to Public Improvements, and submitting the same to the Electors of the State.

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives Concurring:

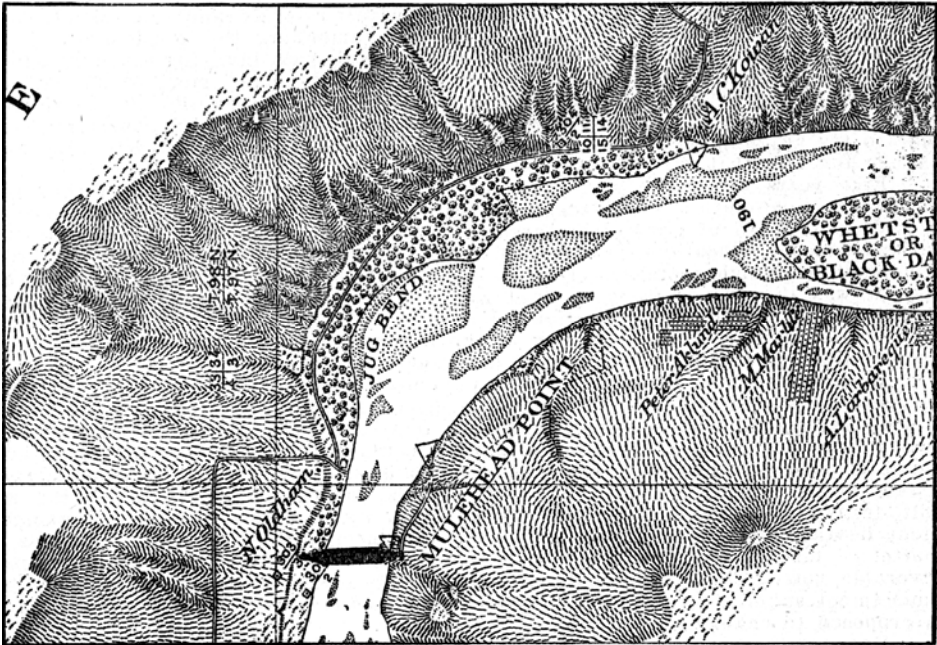
That the following Amendment to Article 13 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota is hereby agreed to:

There be added to said Article 13 of said Constitution a section to be numbered Section 10, as follows:

Section 10. The state may purchase, own, develop and operate plants for the development of power, upon the streams of this state and at coal mines upon lands owned by the state and may transmit such power and supply the same to the people of the state. The state may pledge such plants and accessories thereto to provide funds for such purchase and development any thing in this constitution to the contrary notwithstanding. The legislature by a two-thirds vote of the members elect to each house shall provide by law for carrying the provisions of this act into effect.

Competent engineers believe that the water power sites on our streams and especially on the Missouri River, are available. In some states these power sites have already, to a very large extent, passed into the hands of corporation control. Under our present constitution the state is powerless. Until the constitution is changed our state cannot take over these power sites, or hold or develop or operate them for the benefit of the people of the state.

Much credit for getting this proposed amendment submitted is due to Hon. Doane Robinson, secretary of the state historical society, of Pierre, who has for several years called attention to this important matter. If you believe with me that the constitution should be broadened so as to enable the state to protect and develop its natural resources, and particularly its water power sites, vote for this amendment.



Scale, 1 inch—1 mile

MULE HEAD POWER SITE

STATE HAIL INSURANCE AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Article XXI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, and submitting the Same to the Electors For Their Approval.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of South Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

That at the next general election in this State the following amendment to Article XXI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota is hereby agreed to be submitted to the electors of the State for their approval.

That Article XXI be amended as follows: That a section be added to said Article XXI to be numbered 8, to read as follows:

Section 8. The providing of insurance against loss or damage to crops by hail is hereby declared to be a public purpose, and the legislature is authorized and empowered to levy an assessment upon agricultural land for such purpose, with such exemptions as may be provided by law. The State may be divided into hail insurance districts and the assessment per acre in the different districts shall be as the legislature may determine, but such assessment shall be uniform upon all land of the same district that is similarly situated. The assessment hereby authorized may be levied by the legislature direct, or by the corporate authorities of the districts herein provided for, or by such other agency as may be authorized by general law.

This question is submitted to the voters of South Dakota for the first time. No doubt the legislature would have passed such a law, but our restrictive constitution did not permit it. If the amendment carries, the necessary laws will be passed and the plan will be put into operation. Some people condemn this as socialistic. I consider it simply co-operative; co-operation secured thru the machinery of the state government; thru the servants of the people who are drawing salaries for attending to the business of the state and the welfare of its citizens. The purpose is to secure a good insurance at cost for the producers of grain. Some argue that the state government can not successfully go into a business in competition with individuals and corporations because the business organizations of the 20th century are more efficient than any government agency can be. While I admit that there is some force to this argument, it does not apply in this case,

for the hail insurance companies spend a very large part of their earnings to secure business, for advertising, soliciting, agents, etc. The state can save this expense. Then, again, the hail insurance companies lose a considerable part of the premiums due them. They always get a considerable per cent of poor notes or worthless checks. The state would have no such losses, for the insurance premium would be charged against the land itself the same as other taxes.

It is free from many of the dangers of fire insurance in which the moral risk is a large element or factor to be considered. Too many men will each year sell out to the insurance company by burning their property themselves. There is no moral risk in hail insurance. No man can hail out his own crop to get the insurance.

PUBLIC LAND AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Section Five (5), Article Eight (8) of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota and Submitting the same to a Vote of the People. Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of South Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

1. That at the next general election in this state the following proposed amendment to Section Five of Article Eight of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of this state for their approval.

That Section Five of Article Eight, of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota be amended to read as follows:

Section 5. No land shall be sold for less than the appraised value, and in no case for less than ten dollars (\$10.00) per acre. The purchaser shall pay **at least one-tenth of the purchase price in cash. The legislature shall provide by general law for payment of the balance which shall be made in partial payments and must be fully paid up within thirty (30) years. Interest shall be five (5) per cent annually. All lands may be sold for cash, provided further that the purchaser or purchasers shall have the right or option of paying the balance in whole or in part on any interest paying date. under such rules as the legislature may provide. No land shall be sold until appraised and advertised and offered for sale at public auction after sixty (60) days advertisement of the same in at least three newspapers of general circulation, two of which shall be located in the vicinity of the lands to be sold, and one at the seat of government. No land can be sold except at public sale.**

Such lands as shall not have been specially sub-divided shall be offered in tracts of not more than eighty (80) acres and these sub-divided into the smallest division of the lands designated for sale and not sold within two (2) years after their appraisal shall be re-appraised by the board of appraisers as hereinafter provided before they are sold.

Our state has much public land. Originally two sections, sixteen and thirty-six, in each township were set aside for the schools. Fifteen per cent of these lands have been sold and there is now a permanent fund of \$13,932,303.01, the interest on which is used for the maintenance of our schools. This money is all loaned in South Dakota at 5 per cent and has had a material effect in reducing interest rates. There is still unsold 2,339,912 acres of public land, enough to make 14,619 farms of 160 acres each which, valued at \$25 an acre, would be worth \$58,497,800.00. In addition to this, we have other large tracts of land given us by the Federal Government, such as State University land, Agricultural College land, Capitol Building land; in fact, land for nearly every public institution. These lands were selected after the eastern half of the state was pretty well settled and are, therefore, not so valuable. There are 3733 quarter sections, and if valued at \$20 per acre they would be worth \$11,954,700.00, making a grand total of 2,937,197 acres of land worth approximately \$70,443,500, and the values are increasing, but while the state has all this undeveloped land for sale and thousands and thousands of boys grow up on our farms each year, it is a deplorable fact that hundreds of these boys have gone to other places looking for farm homes; some going to our western states, others to the different provinces of Canada, which have held out special inducements for the young man who wants to start farming. South Dakota has done nothing; it has not even offered the land on easy terms of payment because the constitution did not make this possible. It has long been my idea that the greatest drawback to agricultural development has been the high rate of interest on farm loans and the short time which the loan would run, necessitating frequent renewals and the payment of large commissions, to say nothing about the uncertainties or the difficulties in securing loans when crops were poor or times were hard. At my request the legislature submitted a new plan for your consideration. This has the hearty approval of Hon.

N. E. Knight, the present efficient Commissioner of School and Public Lands, himself an old timer and successful farmer who has gone through all the struggles of the early Dakota pioneer.

Under our present system the purchaser of school land must pay one-fourth of the purchase price in cash and one-fourth in five, ten and fifteen years. The entire purchase price and interest must be paid within the fifteen year period. I propose that by amending the constitution, we provide a plan whereby the purchaser may make a cash payment of 10 per cent and gets immediate possession of the land, and pay the balance of the purchase price and interest in small annual installments, extending the time limit to thirty years so that at the expiration of the thirty year period the entire purchase price and interest shall have been paid, and the interest rates shall not have exceeded 5 per cent. This will make it possible for our young men who desire to make a start in life and to secure a home and to pay for it out of the proceeds derived from the land in small annual installments spread over a large number of years, without so much hardship to the purchasers or their families. The plan is safe because the State would give a contract of sale and hold the deed. The land would then be taxable as well as productive.

South Dakota has about 6000 farm boys in the army today, many of these will be looking for homes when the war is over. Shall we permit them to go to Canada and other far away places and leave our own state land idle and undeveloped? This will not be necessary if this amendment secures the approval of the voters at the next election. It is all right to maintain an immigration bureau advertising to the world the wonderful resources of South Dakota and inviting settlers to come here, but it is more important to provide homes and opportunities for the young men who have grown up in our state, who are familiar with our climate and crop conditions, and who have shown by their lives that they are the best citizens that the country produces. There are none better, let's give them a chance.

If you believe with me that we should make the conditions upon which our young men may purchase our state land, and secure homes for themselves and families on easy terms at a low rate of interest and have the installments of the purchase price so arranged that the land may be paid for from the products of the soil, vote for this amendment.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Section 1 of Article XIII of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, and Submitting the Same to a Vote of the People.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of South Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

That at the next general election in this state the following amendment to Section 1 of Article XIII of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of this State for their approval.

That Section 1 of Article XIII of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Neither the state nor the county, township or municipality shall loan or give its credit to make any donations to, or in aid of any individual, association or corporation, except for the necessary support of the poor, nor subscribe to or become the owner of capital stock of any association or corporation, nor pay or become responsible for the debt or liability of any individual, association or corporation; 'provided, that the state may assume or pay such debt or liability when incurred in time of war for the defense of the state; provided, further, that the state, or any county, or two or more counties jointly, may establish and maintain a system of rural credits and thereby loan money and extend credit to the people of this state upon real estate security in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by general law. Nor shall the state engage in any work of internal improvement, except upon a two-thirds vote of the members elect in each branch of the legislature.

In section 1 to article 13 changes are slight. The proposition is simply to change the article so that the state "can engage in internal improvements." The adoption of this amendment would give the state more freedom to undertake different enterprises. At the present time the state cannot engage in any internal improvement except building roads and opening coal mines "on state lands." This amendment does not permit incurring of indebtedness.

STATE INDUSTRIES AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Section 1 of Article 13 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota and submitting the same to a Vote of the People.

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives Concurring:

That at the next general election in this state the following amendment to Section 1 of Article 13 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of this state for their approval.

That Section 1 of Article 13 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota be amended so as to read as follows:

For the purpose of developing the resources and improving the economic facilities of South Dakota, the State may engage in works of internal improvement, may own and conduct proper business enterprises, may loan or give credit to, or in aid of any association or corporation, and may become the owner of the capital stock of corporations, organized for such purposes. But any such association or corporation shall be subject to regulation and control by the State as may be provided by law. No money of the State shall be appropriated, or indebtedness incurred for any of the purposes of this section, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members of each branch of the legislature. The state may also assume or pay any debt or liability incurred in time of war for the defense of the state. The state or any county or two or more counties jointly may establish and maintain a system of rural credits and thereby loan money and extend credit to the people of the state upon real estate security in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by general law. The limit of indebtedness contained in Section 2 of this article shall not apply to the provisions of this Section, but the indebtedness of the state for the purposes contained in this section, other than for rural credits, shall never exceed one-half of one per cent of the assessed valuation of the property of the state.

This proposed amendment to Section 1, Article 13, is along the same line as the previous one but is much broader in its scope. The amendment contains much new matter. What is shown in black is all new. The balance of this section is already in the constitution. This amendment permits not only the levying of state taxes (within the limits now permitted by the Constitution) to carry on different enterprises, but permits an indebtedness to be incurred by the state of not exceeding one-half of one per cent. This would be about \$7,200,000.00, not including water power development.

I heartily recommend to the voters of South Dakota the adoption of the South Dakota amendment. This amendment to the constitution, like all others, proposed, will require a law enacted by the legislature to put it into effect. Some criticism has been raised on the grounds that it requires a two-thirds vote of the legislature to put it into effect. That is already a provision of our constitution. We have had it for nearly thirty years. It is known as Article XII and it reads as follows:

2. The general appropriation bill shall embrace nothing but appropriations for ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state, the current expenses of state institutions, interest on the public debt, and for common schools. **All other** appropriations shall be made by separate bills, each embracing but one object, and shall **require a two-thirds vote of all the members** of each branch of the legislature.

My experience has been that any meritorious appropriation will receive the two-thirds vote of all members elect. Some have argued that the absence of several of the members who are favorable to the appropriation might defeat any bill requiring a two-thirds vote. My experience has been that it is not the members who are in favor of a bill that are absent. Those opposed sometimes absent themselves when they desire to evade a record vote.

The initiative and referendum provision of our constitution makes a two-thirds vote necessary in order to put a law into effect immediately (that is, to attach the emergency clause). If the emergency clause is not on a bill it can be referred by a petition being filed bearing the names of only five per cent of the voters. Such a petition can always be secured for a few hundred dollars of expense, and has in the past often been used by the corporations to delay and defeat good laws.

Some criticism has been raised in the newspapers over the fact that this amendment changes the same article as the previous one. Both refer to Article. 13. Some have argued that this might create confusion and uncertainty, but I have it on the advice of good lawyers that this will not be the case. This amend-

ment is simply broader than the previous one. If both carry, this one will in their opinion be in full force and effect. It is true if this one carries the previous one serves no purpose. That is simply milder and does not go so far.

I shall ask for an opinion of the Attorney General's department before election so the voters can be officially informed of the effect. If the legal department of the state should hold differently than now seems likely, certainly the matter can be well taken care of by an organized effort in support of this amendment and the defeat of the previous one, or if a special session is called it can be fixed. I might explain that the mistake in numbering grew out of the fact that these amendments do not come to the Governor's office for signature as do laws enacted, but are filed directly with the Secretary of State. I, therefore, had no knowledge that they both had the same number until the matter was called to my attention recently, but I assure the voters that no one need be excited over this. In previous campaigns we have heard the same story. In fact, similar arguments very frequently are used to defeat meritorious measures. There is no danger whatever.

STATE CEMENT PLANT AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Article Thirteen (13) of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, and submitting the Same to the Electors of the State.

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives Concurring:

That the following amendment to Article Thirteen (13) of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, which is hereby agreed to be submitted to the electors of the State for their approval.

That Article Thirteen (13) be amended by adding thereto a new section numbered ten (10) and to read as follows:

Section 10. The manufacturing and furnishing to the people of the state, of cement and cement products are hereby declared to be works of necessity and importance in which the state may engage, but no expenditures of money for such purpose shall be made by the legislature except upon a two-thirds vote.

Section 11. The state may pledge such cement plants and the accessories thereto to provide funds for purchase, construction and development, any thing in this constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

Concrete is the future building material. It is used more and more each year not only in the cities and towns but also on the farms. We have large deposits of cement material. The banks of the Missouri River on both sides are lined with it all the way from Yankton to Chamberlain. Large deposits are also found in the western part of our state. At this time we are using cement shipped in from the east. A considerable part of the cost is long haul transportation charges on the railroads. The cement plant at Yankton is closed. It has passed into the control of the cement trust. Private capital will not engage in the business; the risk of unfair competition from without the state is too great. The state can well afford to operate such a plant at cost in order to re-establish competition and reduce the price to the consumer. The quantity of cement used by the state and municipalities each year would go a long way to take care of the output.

The city of Los Angeles found it to its advantage to construct and operate a cement plant to get cement for the construction of its famous aqueduct and waterworks. Some real competition also tends to lower the general level of prices as has been the case with twine, owing to the competition with the penitentiary twine plant at Sioux Falls. While this twine plant has not been any great source of profit there has been a tremendous saving in the price of twine to our farmers equivalent to many times the cost of the plant.

The cement amendment was introduced by Senator Carl Gunderson of Vermillion.

JUDICIAL AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing an Amendment to Section 7, Article 5 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of South Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

1. That at the next general election to be held in the State of South Dakota, the following proposed amendment to the Constitution be submitted to the electors:

2. That Section 7, Article 5 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota be amended to read as follows:

"Section 7. A majority of the judges of the Supreme Court shall be necessary to form a quorum or to pronounce a decision, but one or more of said judges may adjourn the court from day to day or to a day certain.

Whenever, in the opinion of the Supreme Court, one or more of its judges shall be disqualified, by reason of interest or other cause, from taking part in the decision of any particular action or proceeding, and the Court shall deem it necessary, a person, or persons, shall be selected, in such manner as the Legislature shall provide, to serve in place of such disqualified judge or judges, only for the purpose of deciding such particular action or proceeding."

The only change proposed is to permit the calling in of a circuit judge in place of a supreme court judge where the latter is disqualified from acting, or several circuit court judges where the necessity requires. It occurs occasionally that cases come before our supreme court in which some of the judges are interested or for some other reason are unable to serve. Under our present constitution they have been compelled to sit in cases in which they were interested. This has not inspired confidence in the decision of the court. Many other states have a constitutional provision similar to the amendment proposed here. A similar amendment was defeated three years ago, but you can safely endorse it with your vote.

EQUAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment of Section One, Article Seven, of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, Relating to the Rights of Suffrage, and Submitting the Same to a Vote of the People.

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives Concurring:

That at the next general election in this state the following amendment to Section 1 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of this state for their approval.

That Section 1 of Article VII of the Constitution of the state of South Dakota be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Every person resident of this state who shall be of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, not otherwise disqualified, belonging to either of the following classes, who shall have resided in the United States one year, in this state six months, in the county thirty days, and in the election precinct where such person offers his vote ten days next preceding any election, shall be a qualified elector at such election.

First. Citizens of the United States.

Second. Persons of foreign birth who shall have declared their intention to become citizens conformably to the laws of the United States upon the subject of naturalization.

(Omits word "male" only)

This amendment leaves out the word "male" from the constitution and gives women and men the same right to vote. To my mind this is only a matter of fairness and I believe it will receive a majority vote at the coming election.

TAXATION AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to Section 2 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota and Submitting the Same to a Vote of the People.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of South Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

That at the next general election to be held in the State of South Dakota the following amendment to Section 2 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of the state for their approval.

That Section 2 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota be amended so as to read as follows:

Section 2. To the end that the burden of taxation may be equitable upon all property and in order that no property which is made subject to taxation shall escape, the legislature is empowered to divide all property including moneys and credits as well as physical property into classes and to determine what class or classes of property shall be subject to taxation and what property, if any, shall not be subject to taxation. Taxes shall be uniform on all property of the same class, and shall be levied and collected for public purposes only. Taxes may be imposed upon any and all property including privileges, franchises and licenses to do business in the state. Gross earnings and net incomes may be considered in taxing any and all property, and the valuation of property for taxation purposes shall never exceed the actual value thereof. The legislature is empowered to impose taxes upon incomes and occupations, and taxes upon incomes may be graduated and progressive and reasonable exemptions may be provided.

For the fourth time in the last ten years the legislature has submitted a tax reform amendment to the voters for their consideration. Three times it has been defeated. If you believe that our tax laws are unfair in many respects remember the legislature is not to blame nor is this or any previous administration. An amendment similar to this one was defeated a year ago, so the last legislature was again helpless in the matter of tax reform.

Our people will well remember the postal card signed "Tax Payers' League" which was received two or three days prior to election appealing for a vote "No" on this amendment. The facts have been clearly proven since that this postal card should have been signed "Tax Dodgers' League", as the expense was defrayed by the express companies and allied interests.

If you believe that the state of South Dakota should levy a gross earnings tax upon those corporations which cannot be reached by a direct tax, as for instance, express companies, vote for this amendment.

If you believe those most able to pay the burden of taxation should pay an additional tax, vote for this amendment.

If you believe that improvements upon land should be favored with a lower tax than upon the land itself, vote for this amendment.

The speculator holds land in idleness. It goes up in value each year because the adjoining farmer builds up and improves the country. It is in my opinion fair that the speculator should pay a larger part of the burden and the actual homesteader less. The legislature will carry these ideas into effect at the very first opportunity if you voters will change the constitution by endorsing this amendment so as to make tax reform possible.

SALARY AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment of Section 2 of Article XXI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, Relating to Compensation of State Officers, and Submitting the Same to a Vote of the People.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of South Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

That at the next general election in this state the following amendment to Section 2 of Article XXI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of this State for their approval.

That Section 2 of Article XXI of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, be amended to read as follows:

Section 2. The Governor shall receive an annual salary of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5000.00), the judges of the Supreme Court shall each receive an annual salary of \$4500.00, the Attorney General and the judges of the Circuit Court shall each receive an annual salary of three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3500.00). The Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, State Auditor, Commissioner of School and Public Lands and the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall each receive an annual salary of three thousand dollars (\$3000.00). The Lieutenant Governor shall receive double the compensation of the State Senator. They shall receive no fees or perquisites whatsoever, directly or indirectly, for the performance of any duties connected with their offices. It shall not be in the power of the Legislature to increase the salaries of the officers named in this article in any manner whatsoever. This section shall take effect and apply to all officers therein named from and after January 1, 1921.

This amendment, if carried, will increase the salary of all elective state officers. It will increase the governor's salary from \$3,000 to \$5,000; that of the supreme court judges from \$3,000 to \$4,500; that of the circuit court judges from \$2,500 to \$3,500; state officers generally from \$1,800 to \$3,000 and the attorney general from \$1,000 to \$3,500. I feel that I can speak freely on this amendment, for, if carried, it will not affect me in any respect, as it does not go into effect until January 1921, and I would, of course, not be a candidate for a third term.

In my judgment low salaries and low wages are not conducive to good service. In the long run it is an expensive and wasteful plan. It almost bars a poor man from becoming a candidate, for in most cases state officers cannot live and support their families at the capital on the salaries now paid. There will be plenty of candidates for the offices even with low salaries, but the state loses the service of good men who cannot afford to make the sacrifice. I commend this amendment to your careful consideration.

TERMINAL ELEVATORS, FLOUR MILLS AND PACKING HOUSE AMENDMENT

A JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing and Agreeing to an Amendment to the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, and submitting the Same to the Vote of the People.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Introduced by the committee appointed to investigate and consider the advisability of creating the office of Market Commissioner, and the building of state owned terminal elevators and packing houses, and to investigate as to the proper grading of grain and seeds and matters pertaining to the marketing of agricultural products of this state.

That at the next general election in this state the Constitution of the State of South Dakota be amended by adding thereto Article Twenty-nine (29), to read as follows:

Section 1. The legislature may provide by law and appropriate money for the purchase or construction, and operation of elevators and warehouses, within or without the state, for the marketing of agricultural products; and provided further that the legislature may provide by law and appropriate money to buy or construct and operate flouring mills and packing houses within the state, if, in the future, and in the judgment of the legislature, the public necessities may so require.

I quote from my message to the legislature that convened a year ago the following:

"Our state is productive but our people are not getting the prices to which they are entitled for their products. Single handed they are unable to materially remedy conditions. You will agree with me that it is the province of the state to protect and aid the individual, whether he be engaged in agriculture or other enterprises. Here is a good place to accomplish something. To protect the man who produces the grain from the interests which dictate and control the price to the advantage of the speculator, must be the duty of the state. Whether this duty can best be done by the State in erecting grain storage warehouses or in some other way, is a subject for careful study. The interests of both the producer and the consumer should be protected. It would seem that something could be done to get the consumer and producer closer together to the advantage of both."

The loss to our producers in the marketing of their crops is enormous. It is estimated that the 1917 South Dakota crop production was as follows:

Spring wheat	50,344,000 bushels
Winter wheat	1,680,000 bushels
Total wheat	52,024,000 bushels
Corn	97,150,000 bushels
Oats	65,450,000 bushels
Barley	26,520,000 bushels
Rye	5,600,000 bushels
Flax	980,000 bushels

In addition we produced approximately 7,200,000 bushels of potatoes. If our farmers suffer a loss of ten per cent in marketing it is enormous. You are familiar with the manipulation of the grain and live stock markets. As usual, while it is easy to point out the evil, it is more difficult to find the remedy. A remedy must, however, be found.

The last legislature at my suggestion selected a special legislative committee to hold hearings during the session for the purpose of gathering information on this subject in order that recommendations might be made for suitable legislation. The chairman of the committee was Hon. O. A. Swanson of Brown County, an active member of the "Equity." Many prominent men in the state interested in agriculture and the marketing problems were sent for and appeared before the committee. Among others were E. C. Perisho, president of the State Agricultural college; John E. Kelley, former Congressman, a director in the Equity Terminal Elevator at Minneapolis; H. L. Loucks of Watertown, who is well known to everybody; H. G. Solem of Baltic; O. D. Anderson of Plankinton, former president of the Farmers Grain Dealers Association of South Dakota; and C. J. Dieter of Spink County. The committee endeavored to secure the attendance of Professor Ladd of the North Dakota Agricultural College, who has given much study to this subject, but Mr. Ladd advised that he would be unable to attend.

After going into the matter as fully as the limited time of the legislative session would allow, this special committee made the following recommendations:

(1) That a State Marketing department be established and maintained at the expense of the state. This was in conformity to the request of the Farmers

Co-operative Association of South Dakota (Formerly the Farmers' Grain Dealers Association.)

(2) That a special committee be appointed by the Governor to continue the investigation and report to the Governor from time to time and finally to the next session of the legislature. (Members of the legislature are disqualified by the constitution from serving on such committee after adjournment of the legislature.)

(3) They recommend that the legislature submit to the voters of the state an amendment to the constitution permitting "The State to construct and operate elevators and warehouses, within or without the state, for the marketing of agricultural products; and providing further that the legislature may provide by law an appropriate sum of money to buy or construct and operate flouring mills and packing houses within the state, if, in the future, and in the judgment of the legislature, the public interests so require."

The legislature promptly acted upon the recommendations and passed a law providing for a marketing department. I appointed Mr. Don Livingston of Codington county, a pioneer farmer and successful business man, as Market Commissioner who has, so far, served for a salary of \$2000 instead of \$3000 allowed by law. Mr. Livingston secured as his assistant F. O. Simonson, of Vermillion, who left the farm to come to Pierre. Mr. Simonson has for many years been an active member in co-operative farmers' movements.

The result of the work in this department has, so far brought many substantial results. While it was intended at the time the law was passed that grain inspection would be an important part of their work, the establishing of federal grades has largely changed this. But it has fallen upon this department to see that the different grain buyers were paying the prices fixed by the Government. A large number of arrests and prosecutions have been made. Mr. Simonson made seven arrests in one day. The department has, where ever conditions required, given public notice through the newspapers what prices the elevators should pay for grain in order to advise the farmers what they had a right to expect at this particular station.

The work of the greatest importance, however, was done by Mr. Livingston in going to Washington and pleading the cause of the farmers before the wheat price fixing committee. He saved the farmers of the state many millions of dollars by his timely appearance and able presentation of this subject.

The constitutional amendment recommended by the special legislative committee was submitted.

The legislature also passed the bill providing for a special committee to continue the investigation and appropriated \$2500 for this purpose. The committee as appointed consists of John Belk of Codington County, President of the Farmers Co-Operative Association, an association of about 30 thousand farmers (who are shareholders of co-operative elevators) ; Mr. Frank Peacock of Douglas County, who was recommended to me by the Farmers Co-operative and Educational Union, an organization having some nearly ten thousand members among the farmers in the southern half of the state. The third member is Mr. Peter Heggstad, a successful farmer of the Rosebud country, who well represents the live stock and grain interests "West of the River."

There is reason to hope this committee will find a remedy for patent evils.

INVESTIGATION NECESSARY

I believe the state constitution should be so amended as to grant authority to the state to construct and operate terminal elevators, flouring mills and packing houses. Many difficulties will always be encountered in new undertakings and careful investigation by competent and impartial men must be had before action is taken and the tax payers' money appropriated.

The work of the committee is highly important. They must get all available facts for their report in order that the people and their representatives in the legislature may vote on these propositions with a full knowledge of the actual conditions.

As to terminal elevators, there are many questions involved. Should there be one or more? Should they be within the state or should they be located at ter-

minal grain markets, and if so, at which one? Our grain has been going to the Twin Cities, Duluth and Chicago, and some of it even to Kansas City. What will be the cost of such elevators? How much will the saving be, if any, per bushel? Would such elevators if located in other states be a "South Dakota Warehouse" under the control of South Dakota laws, or would they be subject to the laws of the state in which located.

If located within the state where should each be located; and are the railroad rates such as to make successful operation possible, or could such satisfactory rates be secured? I have no doubt that some plan can be found that would give a certain amount of relief. It is for the committee to find the best plan.

STATE PACKING HOUSES

The committee must investigate the practicability of state owned packing houses. It seems wasteful to ship live stock a thousand miles to a packing house but much of it is still shipped such a distance. The shrinkage is a large item. While the milling industry has had a tendency to center in the larger cities and to be operated in larger units, the packers, on the other hand, have found it to their advantage to work in the opposite direction, to wit: establishing branch packing houses in the live stock districts. There must be some decided advantage in doing this or there would never have been branch packing houses in Sioux City and Sioux Falls.

The committee will be expected to go into this matter fully. If state packing houses will bring us relief, we must have them, but proper investigation must precede the expenditure of the tax payers money.

STOCKYARDS

It is very doubtful that either the states, through their Railroad Commission, or the Federal Government, through the Interstate Commerce Commission, has ever enacted any legislation to regulate the stockyards industry and particularly the fees, commissions, yardage and charges for feed at points where stockyards are located.

At the present time the railway companies are filing tariffs to go into effect February 5, 1918, advancing the charges on hay from 75 cents to \$1.50 per one hundred pounds or from fifteen dollars to thirty dollars per ton. The charges for bedding are being advanced also in some instances fifty per cent and in other instances one hundred per cent. Advances are made on the prices of oats and corn from 75 cents and \$1.25, respectively, per bushel to a flat \$2.00 charge per bushel.

It is my personal opinion that feed and bedding, being mere incidents of the transportation of live stock to market, should be furnished at actual cost. The statement is made that exorbitant charges have frequently been made to live stock shippers for feed, yardage, and other similar exactions at stockyards and feeding stations on lines of railway in this country and it is quite plain that the conduct of this business must be subjected to close regulation either by the state or federal government.

STATE OWNED FLOURING 'MILLS

The committee will be in a position to gather some important information as to the possible success of state owned mills. Among the questions that arise are: Can a small mill compete with a large one? What is the difference of cost per barrel? What part of the cost is the matter of power? Can a mill driven by steam produced by Illinois and Indiana coal compete with one driven by water power like those of the Twin Cities?

Can such freight rates be secured thru the government or otherwise, as would assure the success of state mills under good management? Would a state owned mill be able to compete in the sale of flour in the open market while handicapped with the prevailing freight rates?

The committee may find that the profits are large enough to succeed in spite of many handicaps.

RICHARDS' PRIMARY LAW

You will find upon the ballot next November one more measure for your consideration. This is not a constitutional amendment but a proposed law, which has been placed before you by the filing of an initiative petition. This is the so-called "Richards Primary Law."

The "Richards Primary Law" first went into effect in November, 1912, having been initiated by Mr. Richards. It was repealed by the legislature in 1915. The members of the legislature who were elected upon a platform promise to repeal this act did so. It was afterwards initiated by Mr. Richards, but defeated by the voters at the last election. It has again been initiated.

It is my opinion that this law was generally pretty satisfactory to candidates but impractical from the standpoint of the citizen and tax payer.

OUR PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION

Review of More Recent Legislation. Discussion of State Coal Supply, Farm Labor Shortage, Express Rates, Tax and Printing Commissions and Other State Matters.

I wish to make the statement, knowing successful contradiction impossible, that South Dakota's record of progressive laws enacted and beneficial and remedial legislation passed in behalf of our entire people during the past ten years can no where be equaled—either by any state or any country. Our record is one of which every citizen may well feel a justifiable pride. Among the more aggressive men who have aided in this magnificent work should be listed Governors Coe I. Crawford, Robert Vessey and Frank M. Byrne. Proud indeed am I of the part I have had in this work.

In the following few pages I will discuss South Dakota's more recent beneficial legislation, such as our Rural Credits law (the most progressive enactment of its kind in our country), Bank Guaranty, Workmen's Compensation, Laws for controlling the I. W. W. Menace, State Fire Insurance, Anti-Discrimination and Co-Operative Laws, and various other subjects in which I feel that the people of this state are highly interested. To cover in detail our splendid record would require more space than I have allotted for myself and would be too lengthy to be read by the people generally. I cordially invite your consideration to the matters here presented.

STATE RURAL CREDITS**(Cheap money for farm loans)**

Our state development has, in the past, been greatly retarded by the inability of the farmer to secure long time real estate loans at low rates of interest. I have, for many years, been an advocate of a state system of Rural Credits, but not until three years ago was it possible to secure the submission of such a plan to a vote of the people. The constitutional amendment submitting this plan to a vote was finally passed by the legislature while I was lieutenant governor. It was new and little understood at that time. This was long before the Federal Farm Loan Bank plan was seriously considered.

In the following campaign I became a candidate for governor. I never missed an opportunity in the primary or the fall campaign to speak in support of the amendment and, of course, I was pleased when it received a majority endorsement by the voters. This as all other amendments required legislation to carry it into effect. The bill making it operative was passed with almost a unanimous vote of both Houses. It provided for the sale of state bonds to secure the money to loan to farmers. This law was different from anything adopted in the United States. We are really breaking new ground. I realized the great difficulty—first, of securing the necessary money; second, of establishing a good businesslike and efficient system; third, to safeguard this fund from loss in every possible manner. I went over the proposed law carefully with the committees of the legislature while it was pending. The law provides for a board of five members (or directors). The governor is chairman of the board; the other four members appointed by the gov-

error. One is to act as rural credit commissioner and have charge of the clerical work; one is to act as treasurer.

It was of the utmost importance to secure the best persons available for members of this commission as it had large powers and would handle millions of dollars of the people's money. It was necessary that they had experience and knowledge of banking and real estate loans, and at the same time be in hearty accord with the rural credit idea. While many of the bankers and money lenders were opposed to this plan, I found that several of the broader class of bankers realized full well that cheaper farm loans were necessary for the up building of our state and necessary to make the rural population more prosperous. They realized that prosperity in a community is a good thing for all classes, both in the town and the country. I believed then, and I have been fully convinced since, that this is one of the most important progressive measures ever adopted by any state.

I appointed C. M. Henry, formerly chairman of the State Tax Commission, as Rural Credit Commissioner and member of the board. He has charge of the office and the details of the work. Prior to his appointment on the commission he had several years of banking and loaning experience; is thoroughly familiar with commercial law, real estate and title laws, and business methods. He is hard working and efficient. As treasurer of the Rural Credit Commission and member of the board, I appointed A. W. Ewert, former state treasurer, long an advocate of Rural Credits, a successful business man and a resident of Pierre for thirty years, a man who has known all the ups and downs of central South Dakota. He is conservative business man who is familiar with land values. For a member of the board I appointed Hon. J. E. Ziebach, farmer and stockman of Buffalo County, for fifty years a resident of this state, a man who, in his younger years helped survey large sections of this state and is acquainted with land, its quality and value, in nearly every part of the state. Mr. Ziebach has served several terms in the legislature, is an honored citizen and happens to be a leading Democrat, at times having been considered for the position of Governor. For the other member I appointed Alfred Zoske of Jones County, a successful business man who has lived west of the river for thirty years. For many years he worked on a surveying gang and helped survey many of the counties west of the Missouri. Mr. Zoske has been a very successful ranchman, has large real estate holdings and is now interested in the Live Stock Bank at Draper and is a former member of the state legislature. He has always been a booster for the idea of furnishing cheaper money for the farmers.

The State Rural Credit board has been doing business only a few months. There was considerable delay in getting started as the war conditions had made it difficult to get money and rates were higher. The constitutional amendment had not been as carefully drawn as it should have been and the bonds were unsalable until test cases had been decided by the Supreme Court.

The acquaintance of the members of the commission with many banks and trust companies in the east made the bond sales possible where we would otherwise have had great difficulty. It is with much satisfaction that I can report the successful operation of the State Rural Credit plan. A million dollars has already been secured at an interest rate of 4 3-4 per cent. Nearly one-half million has already been loaned to the farmers and application for \$500,000.00 more have been approved by the Board. Every section of the state is availing itself of this plan. The applications have come from forty different counties. It is a state-wide proposition. The plan contemplates that this department shall be self-supporting. The law provides that an addition of not less than three-fourths of one per cent, nor more than one and one-half per cent addition shall be charged when making the loan. This is to cover expenses and possible losses. This money is now loaned on the amortization plan at 5 1-2 per cent interest, thirty years time is given with optional payment at the end of five years; the interest and a small part of the principal is paid each year. There are no deductions made from the principal; you get the full face of the loan. You are not required to form any associations or to purchase any stock in any land bank or in any way become liable for any loans but your own. There is no red tape nor undue delay. Write the

Rural Credits Board at Pierre for application blanks. All the Board requires is your application and an abstract showing clear title to your property. No other expenses to you.

The loans are made direct to the farmers. The effect of this law has been to hold down interest rates considerably in spite of the war conditions and even to reduce the rates charged by Loan Companies in many sections of the state. Some loan companies have already started to make loans on the ten year plan instead of five. Competition has helped. The necessity, as well as the possibilities, of the practical Rural Credits plan is shown by the fact that the large eastern Insurance companies are carrying about 140,000,000.00 of South Dakota farm mortgages at the present time.

Since the submission of the Rural Credit Amendment by the South Dakota Legislature the Federal Government has also put into operation a Federal Farm Loan Land Bank act. This plan is, much different than the South Dakota plan and very little business has so far been done in the state, but we need them both and there is no conflict or competition between the two. Most farmers prefer the state plan because of its simplicity. The main difficulty for the Board from now will be to secure the necessary funds to meet the daily increasing demand, but unless money conditions grow more stringent so as to prohibit or restrict the sale of our state bonds, every farmer wanting a loan can be taken care of.

STATE COAL SUPPLY

North and South Dakota have an unlimited quantity of lignite coal which will supply the fuel needs of our people in the not far distant future. The state now has authority under the "Rinehart Amendment" to the constitution adopted at the last election, to mine coal on "State Lands." This amendment was to my mind a forward step but should have been broader so that the state could buy some of the best coal lands near the railroad if necessary and not be limited to "State Land," but if the "State Industry" amendment carries at the next election, it will make this possible. The federal government has reserved the coal on the "State Lands."

But permission can probably be secured for mining this coal. It would appear to be the part of wisdom to amend the constitution further so that we would not be limited to state boundaries. Some of the very thickest and most accessible lignite coal beds lie a few miles into North Dakota right on the main lines of the railroad. These beds have a very light covering of dirt and could be cheaply operated with machinery. Heavy lignite beds are also found in North Dakota near the banks of the Missouri river and the coal could possibly be brought down on boats profitably to railroad points on the river in this state, but this is speculative and must be investigated carefully as to its practicability before undertaken. It may be found, however, that we have good coal beds on or near the railroads in our own state. If so this would be the most promising plan. We would be certain of a reasonable freight rate in that case, for the regulation of the same would be under the jurisdiction of the Railway Commission of our state. The constitution at this time is too restrictive, even with the "Rinehart" amendment adopted at the last election.

The legislature took notice of this matter and passed a bill at the last session (Chapter 55) providing that the Governor should appoint a commission to investigate the feasibility of the state going into the coal mining business or to open mines on state lands.

This commission has been appointed and consists of Mr. Cleophas C. O'Harra, President of the State School of Mines of Rapid City, Mr. Charles M. C. Woodland of Redfield, and Mr. H. D. Thompson of Raymond.

The Commission will investigate as to "the cost of opening, stripping, mining, operating, maintaining, transporting and marketing of such coal." They will also investigate the practicability of briquetting the coal at the mines. This process removes the large percentage of water from the lignite coal. Briquettes do not air slack and can therefore be held in storage. Charley Johnson of Fairfax and associates now own and operate a coal mine and briquetting plant near Scranton,

North Dakota, on the main line of the Milwaukee railroad only a few miles from the South Dakota border. While this briquette plan is rather new as applied to Dakota lignite, enough work has been done to indicate that it may have great possibilities.

The report of this commission should contain a great deal of information bearing upon the question of coal mining, briquetting, marketing, etc. Conflicting claims are made as to the possibility of these lignite coal fields furnishing good fuel at low cost. We have no authentic information at this time but we all hope and believe that in the near future our own supply will take care of our fuel problem. The legislature must have this information before spending the people's money in a new enterprise. The coal is here, we need it in our furnaces, we must find some way to handle it even though it is necessary to make our state constitution more liberal to meet the conditions.

While the state may not be able to mine coal cheaper than experienced mining companies, I am convinced that our people will not reap the benefit of the fuel from our own coal fields unless the State should take hold of the matter. The report of the Commission will be published before election so the voters may have this information.

Estimates made by the United State Geological survey of South Dakota and reported fix the amount of minable lignite coal with a heating value between eight and nine thousand British Thermal Units as 1,096,480,000 tons. This is computed from the veins alone that have a thickness of 2 feet 10 inches and which are regarded by the government as of sufficient value to set aside as coal land.'

COAL FROM WYOMING

In our adjoining state of Wyoming there are number of soft coal mines and very large deposits of soft coal. These mines are only operated part of the time because the freight rates on coal from Wyoming to stations in South Dakota have always been so high that the people of this state were unable to use that coal and instead of using coal which might be said to be literally "in our backyard" we have been compelled to ship by far the greater percentage of soft coal used in this state from West Virginia and Ohio, although there is some soft coal used in this state which is mined in Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky and Iowa. The railroad companies have always refused to put in reasonable rates on coal from these Wyoming mines to stations in South Dakota. Because these rates apply from points in Wyoming to stations in South Dakota, the South Dakota Railroad Commission has no jurisdiction to adjust or fix the rates. These rates are under the exclusive control of the Interstate Commerce Commission. In 1912 the Board of Railroad Commissioners of this state started proceedings before the interstate Commerce Commission for the purpose of reducing the rates on coal from the mines in Wyoming to stations in South Dakota. There appears to have been much unnecessary delay by the Interstate Commerce Commission in deciding this case. The South Dakota Railroad Commission has done everything which it could possibly do to secure favorable rates on coal from Wyoming. When the Director General of Railroads was appointed they addressed a communication to him. A copy of that communication is before me. It sets forth fully the proceedings in the case before the Interstate Commerce Commission and no better explanation can be given to the people of this state than will be afforded by a reading of that letter which I set forth below.

BOARD OF RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Hon. William G. McAdoo,
Director General of Railroads,
Washington, D. C.

Pierre, South Dakota, January 10, 1918.

Dear Sir:

In the matter of rates on coal from mines in Wyoming and Montana to stations in South Dakota, I. C. C. Docket No. 5622, 46 I. C. C. 628.

For many years there has been a serious demand on the part of consumers in South Dakota for the establishment of rates on bituminous coal from Sheridan and

other points in the vast Wyoming coal fields, which would permit free movement of this fuel for industrial and commercial use in this state.

In the fall of 1912, the Board of Railroad Commissioners of the State of South Dakota determined to conduct an investigation with a view of securing the establishment of such rates, thereby eliminating the necessity of using coal from eastern fields which it has been necessary to transport an average distance of approximately 1300 miles. While the investigation was pending, complaints were received from various individuals and organizations of this state requesting a speedy investigation of the subject with a view to the establishment of such reasonable joint thru rates as would open these vast coal deposits for commercial usage. During the course of the investigation it was learned that there was then pending before the Interstate Commerce Commission a somewhat similar case brought by the Chamber of Commerce of Sheridan, Wyoming, involving rates on coal from points in Wyoming to certain stations in South Dakota, this case being covered by I. C. C. Dockets Nos. 4947, 5078, and 5079, reported in 28 I. C. C. 250, at which time an application was made to the Interstate Commerce Commission for permission to intervene in that case. The issues in that case, however, were largely with a view to removal of discrimination in the rates from the Sheridan district to certain western South Dakota destinations as compared with the rates from points in the Hudson fields and the question of the reasonableness of the rates from either field was not directly involved. In response to the application of this Board, a communication was received from Hon. Charles A. Prouty, then chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, advising this Board to delay any proceeding until the Sheridan case had been disposed of, upon receipt of which it was deemed wise to acquiesce in the suggestion made and to take no further steps until a decision had been rendered in that case.

The question of rates on coal from Wyoming and Montana fields to stations in South Dakota was made a subject of investigation by the 1913 session of the legislature in this state, resulting in the adoption of a resolution requesting an immediate investigation of the same, a certified copy of which resolution was filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission and forwarded to our representatives in Congress. The Interstate Commerce Commission thereupon entered an order instituting an investigation. The Sheridan case was decided by the Interstate Commerce Commission in an opinion rendered by Commissioner Meyers under date of April 15, 1913, (26 I. C. C. 638), a copy of which was received at this office with an inquiry as to whether or not any further investigation of coal rates from those points to South Dakota was desired. After due consideration the Interstate Commerce Commission was advised that in our opinion, in view of the fact that the Sheridan cases involved discrimination and did not embrace rates to all stations in South Dakota, a further investigation was desired. The case was set down for hearing and heard at Sioux Falls October 30, 1914, at which time the evidence prepared by this Commission and the mine owners and commercial interests was submitted. At the close of the hearing the carriers made an application for a continuance or time in which to prepare to combat the testimony introduced, claiming they were surprised by the evidence offered and had made no preparation to meet it, and had thought the entire question of rates had been threshed out and settled in the Sheridan case. Their application was granted and on the understanding that the second hearing would be held not later than December 15th of the same year. It was actually held on September 2, 1915, one year later, and their testimony at that hearing was quite voluminous. Briefs were filed December 10, 1915 and the case argued orally before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington, January 15, 1916. On September 17, 1917 there was received at this office a copy of the decision dated July 3, 1917, containing findings and conclusions reading as follows:

1. Rates on coal from mines in the state of Wyoming to certain destinations in the state of South Dakota on the lines of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway east to Rapid City and Miles City, found to be unreasonable and unduly prejudicial as compared with the rates voluntarily maintained by the defendants to substantially equidistant points in Nebraska.

2. Thru rates, joint or local, to all points in South Dakota on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway to which thru routes are open, should be established by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company from mines at Sheridan and Kirby, by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company from mines at Hudson and Glenrock, by the Union Pacific Railroad Company from mines at Rock Springs and Hanna, and by the Oregon Short Line Railroad Company from its mines at Cumberland, and such thru rates should more nearly approximate the joint and local rates published by these same carriers from the same mines to points substantially equidistant in Nebraska and other states.
3. The rates on coal from Glenrock to destinations in South Dakota should be on a basis not less than 50 cents lower than the rates from Hudson to the same destinations, and the rates from Hanna to South Dakota destinations should be on a basis not less than 50 cents lower than the rate from Rock Springs to the same destinations."

The Commissioner's report contained no definite order, but their conclusions, 46 I. C. C. 640, were as follows:

"No order will be entered at this time but we shall, expect carriers within sixty days from the service of this report to submit for our approval a general scheme of rates on lump coal to South Dakota points from the fields aforesaid and on the basis here suggested, with such modifications as may be deemed necessary for the purpose of equalizing competitive or other conditions."

October 10, 1917, the carriers filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission a petition for rehearing. A copy of the petition was served on this Commission and an answer thereto was served and filed in due course. Up to the present time, we are not advised as to the disposition of this petition. It is undisputed on this record that nearly all the soft coal consumed in South Dakota is hauled from West Virginia and Ohio (46 I. C. C. 634), whereas from Sheridan to Pierre the distance is 500 miles.

There are some surface lignite mines in the extreme northwestern corner of the state but they barely supply the local demand. The local and state fuel administrators are swamped with complaints of shortage of fuel due largely to the failure of transportation, equipment and adequate supply at the dock ports. The complaints of the consuming public are ever growing more serious against the ever increasing cost of fuel, which at the present time ranges from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per ton for bituminous coal, and the failure of the carriers to make rates which will permit the use of the vast coal deposits in Wyoming. The Wyoming fuel can be used for industrial, commercial and domestic purposes and would be used if the present rates were not prohibitive.

Bulletin No. 20, of December 13, 1917, issued by the Railroads' War Board contained among others, the following statement:

"That a survey be made by the fuel administrators of present contracts and methods of purchase and shipment of coal so as to shorten the rail haul from mine to consumer and to eliminate as far as possible all cross hauls on coal."

Bulletin No. 21, of December 27, 1917, also contained the following statement.

"The present system of disposition involves a great amount of cross hauling of coal and the resulting large waste of transportation. The remedy doubtless requires surrender of convenience and old habits, but it is clear. It is to cause coal to be supplied to every section from the mines nearest that section. No one unacquainted with the facts can conceive of the unnecessary long hauls of coals which have grown up under the right of the shipper to route his traffic as he pleases."

Manifestly that Board has given the question of coal transportation very thorough and serious consideration and with profound sincerity we hasten to acquiesce in its views. An absolutely parallel situation here exists, but the remedy therefore

is not within the bounds of local jurisdiction. There is urgent and strong necessity for an immediate adjustment, and this letter is written with the hope that in view of the situation action will be taken which will result in the immediate publication on not to exceed one day's notice of rates on the basis recommended by the Commission.

Permit us in conclusion to say, that as this case has been pending for a period of nearly five years, it is the earnest and serious request of this Commission that some action be immediately taken to relieve a serious local fuel situation. If these rates can be put into effect train loads of coal from Wyoming can be had readily with less car mileage, a saving in equipment and relief for other sections of the country.

Yours very truly,

J. J. MURPHY, Chairman.

A copy of this letter was sent to each member of the Interstate Commerce Commission and to our senators and representatives in Congress and on the day of its receipt the Interstate Commerce Commission released its opinion denying the petition of the Railway Companies for a rehearing. This opinion was dated December 17th, 1917 but evidently was not "released" by the Interstate Commerce Commission until January 17th, 1918. It was received by the Railroad Commission on January 21st, 1918, and immediately analyzed.

Tables were prepared showing reductions to typical stations on the lines of the C. M. & St. P. Railway Company and the C. & N. W. Railway Company and these tables are as follows:

Stations of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R'y from Sheridan-Hudson, Wyo.

Rates are stated in dollars and cents per ton.

To	Miles from Rapid City	Proposed Rates	Present Rates	Reduction
Rapid City		\$2.40	\$2.40	
Caputa	14	2.60	2.96	0.36
Farmingdale	19	2.60	3.05	0.45
Creston	30	2.70	3.32	0.62
Scenic	42	2.90	3.40	.50
Imlay	51	2.98	3.40	0.42
Interior	72	3.14	3.57	0.43
Weta	87	3.22	3.70	0.48
Kadoka	99	3.30	3.80	.50
Belvidere	112	3.42	3.90	0.48
Stamford	123	3.48	3.97	0.49
Okaton	134	3.54	4.10	0.56
Murdo	144	3.60	4.10	.50
Draper	154	3.64	4.10	0.46
Vivian	167	3.68	4.10	0.42
Presho	179	3.72	4.10	0.38
Kennebec	189	3.76	4.10	0.34
Reliance	203	3.82	4.10	0.28
Oacoma	216	3.84	4.10	0.26
Chamberlain	220	3.84	4.10	0.26
Mitchell (1)	287	3.98	5.87	1.89
Marion Junction	331	4.08	5.75	1.67
Canton	367	4.14	4.50	0.36
Sioux Falls	388	4.18	5.40	1.22
Mobridge	314	Miles City	3.74	
Aberdeen	412	Miles City	3.94	6.80
Redfield	453	Miles City	4.00	6.45

(1) Roundup to Mitchell, 687 miles, \$3.40

(2) Roundup to Aberdeen, 558 miles \$2.90

(3) Roundup to Sioux Falls, 739 miles, \$3.25

(4) Roundup to Redfield. 599 miles. \$3.15

To determine mileage from Sheridan to South Dakota Destinations add 332 miles to those from Rapid City.

Stations of Chicago & Northwestern R'y, Lump Coal from Hudson & Sheridan, Wyo.

Rates are stated in dollars and cents per ton.

To	Miles from Rapid City	Proposed Rate	Present Rate	Reduction
Rapid City		\$2.40	\$2.40	
Box Elder	9	2.50	3.074	0.574
underwood	20	2.60	3.35	0.75
Owanka	34	2.80	3.40	.60
Wasta	58	2.98	3.40	0.42
Wall	45	2.90	3.40	.50
Quinn	65	3.06	3.46	.40
Cottonwood	76	3.14	3.57	0.43
Philip	90	3.22	3.70	0.48
Powell	99	3.30	3.80	.50
Nowlin	105	3.36	3.90	0.54
Midland	116	3.42	3.97	0.55
Capa	126	3.48	4.15	0.67
Van Metre	137	3.54	4.20	0.66
Wendt	146	3.60	4.37	0.77
Teton	156	3.64	4.46	0.82
Ft. Pierre	165	3.68	4.56	0.88
Pierre	168	3.68	5.16	1.48
Blunt	196	3.80	5.34	1.54
Highmore	223	3.86	5.70	1.84
Miller	246	3.90	5.70	1.80
Wolsey (1)	272	3.96	5.88	1.92
Huron	285	3.96	6.06	2.10
Lake Preston (2)	327	4.06	6.24	2.18

(1) From Roundup \$3.15, 670 miles, distance from Sheridan 659.

(2) From Roundup \$3.15; 632 miles, distance from Sheridan 604.

Rates on coal other than lump will be 25 per cent per ton under those stated.

Glenrock 50 cents per ton under Sheridan-Hudson.

The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission provides that the rates shall not go into effect until March 1st, 1918. I have sent one telegram to the Director General of Railroads and one telegram to the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission calling attention to the letter from the Railroad Commission and asking that the rates be put into effect immediately as requested in that letter. The answers follow:

Washington, D. C., January 27, 1918.

Hon. Peter Norbeck,

Governor of South Dakota, Pierre, S. Dak.

Your message twenty-sixth has been referred to Interstate Commerce Commission for attention as it is a matter which comes under their jurisdiction. Wm. G. McAdoo.

Washington, D. C., January 28, 1918.

Honorable Peter Norbeck,

Governor, Pierre, S. D.

Your wire twenty-fifth have today brought matter to attention of carriers urging immediate action, under Commissions findings we are without power to require immediate publication of rates but must allow thirty days. Will advise you of results of our request.

James S. Harlan, Commissioner.

It will be seen from the foregoing letter that the South Dakota Railroad Commission started in the fall of 1912, over five years ago, to secure lower rates on Wyoming coal. Because the South Dakota Commission has no jurisdiction over shipments crossing state lines their only recourse was to start a case before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington.

The Interstate Commerce Commission asked the South Dakota Commission to delay their case until the Sheridan case involving the Wyoming coal rates, already started by Wyoming people and which had been tried and argued was decided.

The Legislature of 1913 passed a joint resolution asking the Interstate Commerce Commission to grant this relief without delay.

When the decision was received in the Sheridan case in the spring of 1913 it was found that the reductions ordered did not materially relieve the situation.

The South Dakota Railroad Commission then asked that its case be set down for hearing and the hearing was held on October 1914, or nearly two years from the time the matter was first taken up.

When the South Dakota side of the case had been heard the attorneys for the railroads claimed they were surprised that the state had been able to present such a strong case and said they were not ready to answer all the points raised and asked for further time in which to prepare and put in their testimony.

The Interstate Commerce Commission granted their request with the understanding that the hearing would be completed not later than December 15th of the same year.

The Interstate Commerce Commission kept putting off the matter so that the final hearing was not had until September 1915, and the case was briefed and finally argued in Washington in January 1916, more than three years had elapsed by this time.

The first decision was made July 3rd, 1917 but the opinion did not reach Pierre until September 17th, 1917.

The railroads then asked for a new trial. The South Dakota Railroad Commission objected to this and finally in an opinion, dated December 17, 1917 but not sent from their office in Washington until January 17th, 1918, the Interstate Commerce Commission refused to grant a new trial and decided the coal rate in favor of South Dakota.

Contrast the foregoing with the following:

In the spring of 1917, the railroads hauling coal from the east into South Dakota asked permission of the Interstate Commerce Commission to raise their coal rates. The South Dakota Railroad Commission protested but the case was decided in favor of the railroads and the increased rate put into effect immediately not only on eastern but on Wyoming coal also until the new Wyoming coal rates go into effect.

There has been much complaint on account of shortage of cars and the congestion of railway traffic. This could have been relieved in large measure by permitting South Dakota to get coal from our nearest mines to the west of us but we are still getting our coal from the east and paying the increased freight rate.

TAX COMMISSION

It was my privilege, while a member of the state senate, to introduce the tax commission bill at the 1915 session and which became a law after a bitter and protracted fight. I had introduced it in the session two years previous, where it had failed. This bill was in line with the progress being made in other progressive states, had been under consideration for a great many years, and had been recommended by several different governors of our state as the only effective plan of fairly distributing the burden of taxation between individuals and counties (as far as practical under our constitution). The work of the tax commission is so well known to the people of the state as to need little or no explanation on my part. I might state that one phase of the work has been to look after the inheritance tax law; to see that the state and the counties secured what they are entitled to from this source. The result along this line has also been most grati-

fyng, as will be shown by the following figures furnished by the tax commission:

The 1915 law now in effect placed the collection of inheritance taxes under the charge me of the Tax Commission on. From July 1, 1915 to October 1, 1917, two years and three months, there was collected\$259,296.74
The total amount collected for the ten years preceding July 1st, 1915 was\$108,300.41
About \$85,000 was collected from the Wm. Deering estate of Chicago. Wm. Deering was at the time of his death the owner of a large amount of farm mortgages in South Dakota.
Excess collected under the supervision of the State Tax Commission in **two years and three months** over the previous **ten years**, \$150,996.33.

STATE PRINTING COMMISSION

The legislature of 1913, of which I was a member, took up the question of getting our public printing upon a better basis. The amount expended each year was large. Under this law the governor is the printing commissioner, but the work is actually done by a deputy appointed by him, commonly called the deputy printing commissioner.

As the result of the law, I submit the following report of Mr. W. D. Johnston, Deputy Printing Commissioner:

REPORT

November 20, 1917

Business transacted through Bureau of Public Printing from March 12, 1913 to June 30, 1917,

	Present Prices	Former Prices
March 12, 1913 to June 30, 1914	\$10,563.14	\$ 13,902.53
July 1, 1913 to June 30, 1914	39,708.19	75,714.65
July 1, 1914 to June 30, 1915	68,533.47	128,360.10
July 1, 1915 to June 30, 1916	42,798.79	74,996.55
July 1, 1916 to June 30, 1917	75,047.23	114,005.22

Saving to the state from March 12, 1913 to June 30, 1917\$236,650.82 ..\$406,979.05
June 30, 1917\$170,328.23

THE ABOVE SHOWS A SAVING OF \$3475.00 PER MONTH OR OVER \$100.00 PER DAY.

In comparing the expense to the savings, it shows that for every dollar expended by the Bureau of Public Printing the state has saved \$17.94.

EXPRESS RATES

I think it may now be said that nearly every person in South Dakota, except those whose financial interests are affected to the contrary, are in favor of the enactment of laws which will have the effect of abolishing express companies and requiring the railroad companies to conduct the business now being conducted by the express companies of the country. The express company takes the package and the money and the railroad company conducts the transportation. Both the express companies and the railway companies are constantly asking the Interstate Commerce Commission to increase their rates. The express companies pay a certain percentage of the money taken from the public to the railway companies for transportation or express privileges as they call it. For instance, out of every dollar (\$1) charged by the Wells Fargo and Company fifty-five cents (55c) is paid to the railway company. In this transportation, there are two profits, one to the express company and one to the railway company and there are complete, separate and independent companies with complements of employees, officers and high salaried officials. The public is called upon to pay charges high enough to pay for the duplication of officers and employees as well as a profit to the express company and a profit to the railway company. This should not be. At one time a railway company started to organize an express department whereupon an express company increased its compensation to the railway company 5 per cent and then it advanced its rates to the public five per cent to compensate for the advance in pay to the railway company. By requiring the railway companies to transact the express business there will be a saving of the profit now made by the express companies and an elimination of a certain class of high salaried officials

now controlling the express business. South Dakota can only regulate rates between stations in the state and as to shipments which cross the state line the regulation of the rates and service is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government and is vested in the Interstate Commerce Commission. In 1909 this question commenced to receive the attention of our people and in 1911 the board of railroad commissioners were given jurisdiction over express rates and authorized to make schedules of rates for the handling of express business. Within sixty days after the passage of that act the board of railroad commissioners issued its schedule of rates and for the purpose of comparison I am setting forth in the table below the charges for typical illustrative distances in this state as fixed by our railroad commission and the rates for the same distances in our adjoining and neighboring states:

Merchandise Express Rates in cents per hundred pounds					
Miles	South Dakota	North Dakota	Minn.	Iowa	Montana
25	30	70	70	45	70
50	35	70	70	55	70
75	35	90	90	65	90
100	35	90	90	75	90
125	40	115	115	90	115
150	50	115	115	95	115
175	60	140	140	105	140
200	70	140	140	105	140

The South Dakota rates have been in effect since September 21, 1911.

PROHIBITION

South Dakota has now had six months experience with the bone dry law. This law, unlike our prohibition law of 1889, is now enforced by state officers instead of depending solely on city and county officers. A state sheriff has been appointed by the Governor, whose duty it is to enforce all laws and especially the prohibition law. The Attorney General is also given authority to prosecute and now if city and county officers are indifferent or unwilling to act, the law is and will be enforced through state officials. The law also causes city and county officers to be more diligent and watchful, if they wish to avoid the necessary state. officers performing duties which properly devolve upon them. The law is popular even with those who previously doubted that any prohibition law could be enforced.

Congress has now submitted a "National Prohibition Amendment" and it is safe to say that at the first session of the legislature of this state this amendment will be ratified by an almost unanimous vote. Such action will be urged in my next message to the legislature.

I hope that before this amendment becomes effective that congress will adopt a national wartime prohibition law, in order that the grain now used in the manufacture of liquor may be used for food products to feed our soldiers at the front as well as the folks at home. It would be of material help in food conserva-tion and South Dakota will heartily approve of such action.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

The last legislature took a progressive step in providing that injured work-men should receive compensation without expensive litigation. In other words, the employer must take out insurance for the benefit of the employees who may be killed or injured while performing their duties.

We have in years gone by seen many cases where the father of a family was injured or killed and there was no recourse for the dependents except prolonged

and expensive litigation through the courts. Frequently the results were that lawyers received most of the money recovered.

Under this law, if after an injury has occurred the proper relief is not promptly forthcoming to the injured or the dependents, a state officer is notified and it is his business to see that the injured or the widow, orphans or other dependents secure without delay the benefits provided for in this law, and this without cost to the person injured or his family.

It has been in effect since July 1st last and since that time compensation benefits have been paid in upwards of two hundred accident cases and in eleven cases where the workmen upon whom the policies were carried were killed. I mention one case that is typical. Evan Thomas was killed while in the employ of the Aberdeen Daily American as a pressman.- One day while at his work one of his feet was crushed in the machinery with the result that amputation was necessary and he died as a result of the shock.

He was a married man with two small children and another baby arrived at his home shortly after his untimely death, yet all he left to them was the \$3,000.00 policy that was provided for his family when the legislature of 1917 enacted the South Dakota Workmen's Compensation Law. This money is paid to the widow in monthly installments. It is a good law and a long step in the right direction.

BANK GUARANTY LAW

After unsuccessful efforts on my part in three sessions of the legislature to secure the passage of a state bank guaranty law, it was my privilege to see the law enacted in the session of 1915, while I was Lieutenant Governor. It had been opposed vigorously and successfully by the banking interests for many years. The bankers believed that the law was unfair and impracticable. I felt, however, that the main question involved was protection for the public, who were the banks' customers. Few disasters are so serious in their consequence as bank failures.

The law now has been in operation two years. The results have justified faith. The state bankers themselves would not repeal the law now if they could. We have been fortunate in the fact that there has, during this time, been only one bank failure, that of the Dirks Bank at Oacoma. The failure created no unrest or excitement. Farmers who had money in the bank did not come to town for several days after they heard of the failure. It did not create any run on other banks. On the contrary, their business increased every day. The state "Bank Guaranty" fund was immediately drawn upon and the depositors were paid in full without delay. The defunct bank was taken over by the state banking department and its affairs are now about closed. Sixty per cent has been realized and already been paid back into the guaranty fund, and there will be enough to pay the other forty per cent. No one lost any money except the owners of the bank. This result was, of course, possible only by businesslike and economical management of the defunct bank.

The guaranty fund has now reached the sum total of \$321,042.73. This money is secured by an assessment upon all the deposits of the state banks of one-fourth of one per cent each year until the total fund reaches an amount equal to one and one-half per cent of the total deposits in the state banks which will create a fund of over a million dollars. The February assessment will swell the "Bank Guaranty Fund" to \$600,000.00.

All deposits in state banks are therefore guaranteed and that without any cost to the depositor.

EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY

It has been my aim and purpose to put all of the state institutions and departments upon a business basis. I find the majority of them in charge of earnest and capable men, putting their best efforts into the work, but others could be improved upon. The last legislature refused to enact a bill introduced at my suggestion providing that the salaries of employees in the different departments should have the approval of the governor. There is no uniform rule prevailing. In some cases the legislature fixed the salary. In other cases it is fixed by the

department head. Sometimes it is low, other times it is high. Some departments pay high salaries, others do not. In some departments the work is strenuous, in others the employees have "time to spare". Some uniform rule should be established so that the pay should be in proportion to the service performed. I hope the next legislature will investigate this matter fully.

STATE TUBERCULOSIS SANITORIUM

The state's educational, charitable, and penal institutions are being well conducted. South Dakota has in her employment in some of her institutions men of great ability, so recognized far outside of our state boundaries. But of only one, our newest charitable institution will I speak here owing to the lack of space.

The State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis located at Custer in the Black Hills is one of the most, if not the most, ideally located institutions of its kind in this country. The people of the state have reason to feel a special pride over the way the state is taking care of her tuberculosis patients and of the magnificent plans to further aid in their care and cure. A large percentage of patients are cured. The last legislature, at my urgent request, provided the funds for considerable additional room and much needed equipment for this institution and for a central heating plant—a necessity too long denied.

LAW FOR CONTROLLING THE I. W. W.'S.

This organization has a large percentage of members who have no regard for the laws of the state or of the nation, and no respect for life or property. They come during the summer time in large numbers to our towns and villages and often inaugurate a reign of terror. They are not men who want honest labor at a fair wage. They have been a threatening menace to our state for many years, especially in the grain growing section. The local officers were unable to cope with the situation, and the last legislature, upon my recommendation, passed several laws under which it was possible in some degree to control this outlawry.

Chapter 322, Laws of 1917, makes it a crime to ride upon trains except by permission of the conductor and makes it a penitentiary offense to carry concealed weapons upon the trains. Chapter 355, Laws of 1917, provides for a state constabulary. The governor may call on all the police officers of the state or as many of them as may be necessary to deal with the situation. Under this law, it is possible to mobilize several hundred tried and experienced sheriffs and police officers at one point if need be. The result of these laws was that last year South Dakota had much less trouble with this element than in previous years and much less than was had in other states similarly situated. This law is not intended in any way to interfere with the honest laborer who comes into the state seeking work, but it is intended to protect him against the lawless element. South Dakota welcomes every honest laboring man to her midst and guarantees the protection that is necessary. This state is now in position to make good on this.

STATE FIRE INSURANCE

In 1913 a law was passed providing that the state should carry its own insurance on state owned buildings. This is Chapter 72 Laws of 1913. It was found that it was costing about \$25,000.00 per year for premiums. In view of the fact that most of the buildings were practically fire proof the legislature decided to pay no more insurance premiums, but instead provided that \$25,000.00 per year should be set aside for a rebuilding fund to be drawn upon to repair or reconstruct buildings damaged or destroyed by fire or tornado. \$150,000.00 has now been set aside for this purpose. The total fire and tornado loss on state buildings during this entire period is \$739.48. We have been fortunate in having no heavy losses and the fund is now large enough to meet almost any emergency. None of our neighboring states have taken this progressive step.

I believe the state could safely go into the Surety Bonding business, to the extent of bonding its State and County officers.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAWS

You will remember that not many years back, persons of small capital desiring to engage in business soon found their business destroyed by unfair competition of the larger corporations. A farmers lumber yard, or a creamery, or an elevator or similar enterprises would be put out of business because of the price fixing activities of these old line corporations in the places where a private business or co-operative enterprise was established. The old line companies would operate at a loss in such a town and make up this loss by raising or lowering the price as might be necessary at other cities or towns. Our first anti-discrimination law was passed in 1907 and since then in 1909, and again in 1913, the entire subject of anti-discrimination and unfair competition has been covered very thoroughly. These laws have stood the tests in the Courts and it may fairly be said that since their enactment, the field is open for fair competition. Several hundred co-operative elevators, lumber yards, creameries and stores are now in successful operation and protected by these laws. These concerns have been of great advantage to both the producer and the consumer.

South Dakota has always been well in advance on legislation of this kind and has always been ready to protect her people against unfair methods.

CO-OPERATIVE LAWS

The 1913 sessions of the legislature passed a comprehensive co-operative law introduced in the House by Hon. A. L. Berg, a member of the Farmers' Co-operative Association of South Dakota, (formerly Farmers Grain Dealers Association of South Dakota). The law makes possible co-operation in its broadest and truest sense, and provides for a fair profit to the stock holders and a division of the balance of the earnings among customers. It has been very satisfactory to the various farmers co-operative enterprises, and I was particularly interested in it and pleased that as a member of the Senate it was my privilege to materially assist in its passage by that body.

PACKING HOUSES

The packing industry is controlled by a trust which has a firm grasp upon, and levies a much heavier tribute upon the producers of consumers than any other combination, not excluding the manipulators of grain and grain products, and of late years the menace to the American people from this combination of organized wealth and power is greater and more serious than ever before in the history of our country. Originally organized for the conduct of packing business, purely and strictly, they have rapidly extended their field of operations until they have now entered and obtained practical control of many lines of industry. In addition to owning and controlling the entire packing industry in the United States they also own and control the packing plants and industry in other countries, for instance, the Argentine Republic. They also own and operate the stock yards at the large packing centers of the country and at these yards extortionate prices are charged to the shippers and producers for hay, feed, yardage and other similar exactions, and as to these, under present conditions the shippers and producers, and ultimately the consumers, must stand the gaff and cannot protect themselves. These stock yards or marketing places should either be owned or operated by the state or federal government or regulated by law. I am reliably informed that within the past year after the American people had been encouraged by economists to substitute rice for potatoes as an article of diet that the packers obtained a corner on the rice crop and advanced the price from approximately four dollars per hundred to \$10.95 per hundred weight. It is also true that this same combine bought up and obtained control of or a corner on the salmon pack even before the salmon catch was made and that during the growing season of 1917, and long before the maturity of the products, they obtained control of the tomato and other similar crops. Their sole and only purpose in doing so is to levy an unholy tribute upon the people. The price to the producer is beaten down to the very lowest ebb and the price to the consumer is then raised to the limit and as high as the traffic will bear and the difference goes into the pocket of the com-

bine. The American people if they are not now, soon will be compelled by the very laws of necessity to provide for governmental ownership or regulation, either federal or state, of the packing industry. The packers are in the same class with the food speculators and are practically, as a matter of fact, aside from the packing industry, mere speculators. They are different from the ordinary speculator in that they constitute a gigantic organization having at their command untold millions of dollars. Not satisfied with the unconscionable profits which they have reaped from the packing industry alone, they are now reaching out and attempting to control the food products of the world. Not content with these and their innumerable other activities and the control of banks, they are also reaching out to secure control of the railroads of the country.

STATE FLOURING MILLS

Last year South Dakota raised about 52,024,000 bushels of wheat. That is 7 per cent or 8 per cent of the total raised in the United States. It is about 2 per cent of all the wheat raised in the world.

We consume in South Dakota about 6 per cent of the wheat we raise. The other 94 per cent must be sold outside the state.

The exportation of wheat from the United States is generally about equal to the amount of wheat raised in North and South Dakota, though it was somewhat larger this year.

Unfortunately our milling industry has been largely ruined through unfair competition by the larger milling interests which have been aided by favorable interstate railroad rates. Several of the few remaining flour mills are now controlled by the large milling interests and as to these there is no competition.

While the large milling interests may have certain economic advantages such as cheap power, abundant capital and a thorough knowledge of the whole subject matter, this alone does not explain the reason for their being able to put so many of our flour mills out of business. The best information I can get is that about one hundred of our mills have ceased to operate and a large number of them have been torn down. Less than one-third have been profitable.

FARM LABOR SHORTAGE

The putting in of our crops next spring is going to be a serious problem, owing to the great shortage of labor caused in a large degree by the enlisting of over six thousand of our farmer boys in the army and navy service. While we realize that a large number of these boys will, by next spring, be some place "over there", yet there will be many hundreds of them in the camps in this country. Owing to the great emergency it seems to me that the Federal Government should make some provision whereby these boys could be returned to the state for labor upon our farms during the planting season. Even if we could secure other laborers from the ranks of the laboring men of eastern cities this will not solve our problem. Farming is a science, and the common laborer of the city is not skilled in farm labor and is largely unfit for such work as we would want, and is wholly unacquainted with our crop conditions; while our boys who have enlisted from our farms are thoroughly acquainted with our conditions and their return to the state for even the matter of a few weeks would be of the greatest assistance and is by me considered an imperative necessity. We are urged to greater crop production and if we are to meet this emergency and produce these greater crops we must have skilled farmer boys to help put them in.

I have recently sent a personal representative to Washington to confer with department authorities with a view to securing, during the coming season, the assistance of our boys then in training in various cantonments.

WAR PROFITS

Of this I am certain. Our boys fighting our battles at the front when they return to private pursuits should not be burdened by inordinate taxes levied to pay the expense of this war. They have done their share and more in the sacrifice which they will have already made. Surely some method to prevent such unfairness can be devised by our federal government and with no injustice to anyone.

Since the outbreak of the present world conflict we have been and are growing a new crop of millionaires. We now have 22,696 millionaires, nearly 8,000 more than last year, and ten of these have an annual income of five million dollars or more. The growth of stupendous, unearned fortunes from the frightfulness of war and the incurring of stupendous, national indebtedness to be paid off by future generations furnishes food for thoughtful, serious consideration. Breathes there a man who does not fervently pray that this awful carnage may soon cease and end in an honorable and everlasting peace. Our citizens are giving their most priceless possessions, their lives. Our fathers, husbands and sons are going forth to do battle for the cause of humanity and the protection, security and safety of all the peoples of all the nations of the earth. We are in this war to win, and win we must or become subservient to a foreign nation.

I do not believe any man or set of men should be permitted to make a war profit. I do not believe that our bread winners, the supporters of our families, our fathers, husbands and sons should be sent to do battle for their country and their flag and any who remain behind be permitted through obtaining a corner on markets or advancing the price of fuel, food or clothing, to make it more difficult for the families of those serving their country in the army and navy to properly warm, feed and clothe themselves.

I do not believe it is within the province of any man or set of men to capitalize the lives of our boys. We are infinitely more tender of "our boys" than we are of our dollars, hence we should tax excess profits to such an extent as to wipe them out entirely. While the power to tax includes the power to destroy, and I do not believe in the destruction of property by taxation, I do most sincerely and heartily believe that the war profits of the munition manufacturers and of the packers and food speculators and in fact all of the excess war profits gained in all lines of industry, should by taxation be appropriated by the government for the purpose of defraying the expenses of conducting the war and that this subject of taxation, as well as of the taxation of incomes and inheritances, being of a national scope, should receive immediate attention and appropriate legislation by the Congress of the United States.

PROGRESS IN OTHER STATES

A Statement Showing the Recent Legislation of a Neighboring State as Compared With the Record in South Dakota, Published by Request

We all profit by the experience of others and we should, therefore, study conditions in other states, ascertain what progress has been made and learn how problems have been solved. Laws on the statute books of many states are either taken wholly or largely from the laws of some other state. There is no patent on good ideas. We are always looking for the best and without hesitation appropriate the same for our own use. A farmer friend has recently handed me a pamphlet containing a list of laws passed at the last regular session of the legislature in North Dakota and asked me to make a comparative analysis with the laws of this state.

For comparative purposes I have, therefore, prepared a table setting forth under appropriate headings the North Dakota laws as listed in the pamphlet with a parallel column stating briefly the history- of similar enactments in this state.

NORTH DAKOTA LAWS

(The following from the 'North Dakota' Pamphlet.

1st. Filing fees for bonds of township officers cut out.

2nd. To compel railways to furnish cars to all shippers alike.

3rd. To compel railways to furnish sites for elevators and warehouses on right of way.

4th. Compel railways to furnish side tracks at coal mines.

5th. Makes railways pay employees twice each month.

6th. Passed a splendid warehouse license law.

7th. Prohibited the sale of promissory notes taken in payment of insurance premiums. Shuts off fraud in such cases and protects the common people.

8th. Combined the Clerk of the County Courts office with that of the District Court and saves the salary of one officer.

9th. Requires County Commissioners to personally supervise road work. Makes them earn their salaries.

SOUTH DAKOTA LAWS

In South Dakota the fee of fifty cents is paid to the County Auditor for filing bonds of township officers and is turned into the County Treasury.

This law was passed in South Dakota in 1897.

This law was passed in South Dakota in 1895.

Law requiring side tracks for all industries passed in South Dakota in 1899.

Railway employees in this state are paid once each month.

This same statute was passed in South Dakota in 1913 and the North Dakota law appears to be a copy of the South Dakota statute.

South Dakota statutes passed in 1905 include notes given for insurance, medical services, lightning rods and patent rights and protect the unsuspecting public thoroughly.

In South Dakota one clerk has always handled the Circuit and County court work.

The South Dakota "Good Roads Law" passed in 1911 abolishes the office of road over-seer and imposes the duty of supervising roads on township supervisors and county commissioners.

10th. Repealed the law allowing expenses to supreme court, saves thousands of dollars in expense and gets more work done by the court.

11th. Passed the best co-operative corporation law in the United States, fought for years to get this through the old party legislatures.

12th. A law taxing a 60-horse power car \$26.00 and a 20 horse power car \$6.00. All the fees to be spent on the roads. The big car tears up the road, let them pay their share.

13th. Provided for the issuance of writs of error by the Supreme Court which will save thousands of dollars to litigants and get speedy hearing on the merits of the cases in which used.

14th. Prohibiting discrimination between localities in the price of cream.

15th. Provided for a dairy commission.

16th. Established a license system for creameries. Prevents unfair dealings.

17th. Prohibiting the sale of dangerous drugs.

18th. Guarantee of bank deposits law, in which the banks are all assessed to raise the money to guarantee the depositors.

Yes, on Feb. 2, 1917 North Dakota repealed the law giving each judge \$500 (House Bill No. 30) expense money for living at the capital, but on March 12 following they passed a new law (Senate Bill No. 268) increasing their salary from \$5000.00 to \$5500.00 a year, so each judge receives the same amount as before. How will this "save thousands of dollars to the people and get more work done by our court " Judges in South Dakota receive \$3000.00 a year and \$600.00 expense money for living at the capital, or \$1900.00 a year less than the North Dakota judges.

The North Dakota statute was evidently taken from the South Dakota law enacted in 1913 as it is almost identically word for word the same. (See Title "Co-operative Laws" in this booklet.)

The license fee for automobiles in South Dakota is \$3.00 and the money goes into the road fund.

Under the North Dakota law motor cars are exempt from all other taxation. Therefore the sixty horse power car gets off easy.

The "Writ of Error" has been used in South Dakota from time immemorial. The Supreme Court of South Dakota now hears and decides cases in a very short time. The judges of our Court are up with their work.

This law has been in effect in South Dakota since 1907. (See Title "Anti-Discrimination Laws" in this booklet.)

We have had a dairy expert and a dairy commission in South Dakota for a great many years. The work of Prof. Larson is well known to our people.

The North Dakota law provides for licensing the man, firm or company conducting the business.

There is no chance for unfair dealings in South Dakota. (See Title "Anti-Discrimination Laws" in this booklet.)

Sale of misbranded and adulterated and dangerous drugs prohibited in South Dakota for many years past. Law enforced by pure food and drug commissioner.

I commend the North Dakota legislature for adopting the South Dakota Bank Guarantee Law and my only regret is that they saw fit to reduce the assessment made against banks from one fourth to one-twentieth of one per cent or -one fifth of the South Dakota assessment.

19th. Established weighing and grading law for the state, will save hundreds of thousands of dollars each year for the farmers.

20th. Taxes money and credits that have always escaped taxation before.

21st. Provided for compensation of convicts who have served time and are afterwards proven innocent.

22nd. Provided for and established model highway commission fought for for many years in other states and never put into law. Cheapens and standardizes road construction, and secures federal aid.

23rd. Provided for publication of information for dairymen at state expense.

24th. Established a "Welfare Commission." Recognized as real reform in the direction of justice to the workers in dangerous callings.

25th. Passed laws for the standardization of rural schools. A long step towards making the schools of real service.

26th. Levied a 15 per cent inheritance tax on large fortunes. Helps to put the burden of taxes on those best able to bear it.

The grading of grain has now been largely taken over by the federal government. South Dakota has competent state scale inspectors.

Under the North Dakota law moneys and credits are taxed at a flat rate of "three mills" or three-tenth of one percent "of the fair cash value thereof."

A good law. No claims for compensation have been made in North Dakota under this law.

Our statute provides for an allowance to convicts or dependents for labor performed and is administered by the Board of Charities and Corrections and the Warden of the State Penitentiary.

North Dakota has a State Highway Commission of five members. In South Dakota the State Highway Commission, composed of three members, was passed in 1913 and under the law, as amended in 1917, accepting federal aid, the construction and standardization of roads is under the supervision of an expert highway engineer.

The South Dakota Agricultural College has published and distributed valuable information to dairymen, at the expense of the state for many years.

South Dakota legislature in 1913 passed a law regulating the employment and hours of labor of women, girls and children and in 1917 passed the Workmen's Compensation Law referred to elsewhere in this booklet. South Dakota has a good "Mothers Pension Law."

North Dakota has for many years been well advanced in school matters; while South Dakota has a number of centralized rural schools, North Dakota has a great many more.

Money was appropriated by our last legislature for a comprehensive survey of our entire educational system to be made under the supervision of the Federal Government. I believe their report will give us much valuable information and many good suggestions. The country districts are entitled to better schools and state aid should be given to those who come up to a certain standard.

The North Dakota Inheritance Tax Law passed in 1917 is almost an exact copy of the South Dakota Law of 1915. It is a graduated tax running from 1 1-2 per cent to 15 per cent, the larger rate applying only when there are no close relatives and where the estate is large. Our rate of taxation as provided by the state law enacted in 1915 is the same except that South Dakota's inheritance tax of 15 per cent applies on inheritances in excess of one hundred thousand dollars, whereas in North Dakota the

27th. Established evening schools for young men and women above school age.

28th. Established county agricultural and training schools.

29th. Laws taxing foreign corporations that have escaped taxation in the past.

30th. Established township dipping tanks for stock.

31st. Gave the vote to women on everything but the state officers.

32nd. Appropriated money for experiments at Agricultural College with grain, from which Dr. Ladd soon showed that D. Feed wheat which was being sold at 70c per bushel was worth for making flour just as much as No. 1 Northern that was being sold at the same time at \$1.70 per bushel.

33rd. Passed laws classifying property for taxation, which provides that improvements upon farm lands are to be valued at 5 % of their actual value, while railroad property, express and telegraph, and banks, together with land are to be valued for taxation at 30 per cent of their true value. This gives the farmers a fair show by making light taxes on his farm improvements.

15 per cent rate applies only on inheritances over five hundred thousand dollars. (See Title "Tax Commission" in this booklet.)

The North Dakota statute is a good law.

Each county should have a training school for teachers. This can be done by giving State aid to at least one high school in each county, on condition that the course of study include a year of normal training. This plan would provide better teachers for our country schools.

We have had a similar law taxing foreign corporations for many years and it is effectively administered by the Tax Commission.

Law establishing dipping tanks passed in South Dakota in 1905 and repealed in 1909 by law creating State Live Stock Sanitary Board. We also have a Dipping Vat Law which provides for dipping live stock afflicted with scabbiest or mange. The vats are constructed and operated under the general supervision of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board.

Women now vote in South Dakota on school matters. The Equal Suffrage Amendment is to be voted on next November.

If Dr. Ladd by experiment showed that D. Feed (shrunken) wheat would make as much flour per bushel or per hundred weight as No. 1 Northern wheat and just as good flour it was a wonderful discovery and the money was well spent. This matter will be brought to the attention of the Commission appointed to investigate into terminal elevators, flouring mills and packing houses.

If this is the North Dakota law the workman's house in town would be assessed in the highest class. I can not, however, find any such law on their books, but the last legislature in North Dakota, submitted the following as an amendment to the state constitution:

"All improvements on land shall be assessed in accordance with Section 179 and the amendments thereto, but the legislative assembly shall have the power to exempt from taxation any and all improvements on farm property."

This amendment will be voted upon by the people of North Dakota at the next election.

The North Dakota pamphlet then continues as follows: "Of course, this was not the full program as the hold-over senators were able to defeat some important

legislation, such, for instance, as the constitutional amendment allowing the use of the credit of the state for industrial and co-operative enterprises for the farmers of the state."

While this law failed in North Dakota, it did not fail in South Dakota. §

For the purposes of comparison read the proposed North Dakota amendment which did not pass and the proposed South Dakota amendment which was sub-mitted to the people to be voted on next November.

NORTH DAKOTA PRO- POSED AMENDMENT

Section 172: The state or any political division thereof, may issue or guarantee the payment of bonds in excess of the debt limit specified in this article provided such bonds are secured by first mortgage upon real estate or upon property of public utilities or industries.

(Note that this has no limit as to indebtedness.)

SOUTH DAKOTA AMENDMENT SUBMITTED

For the purpose of developing the resources and improving the economic facilities of South Dakota, the state may engage in works of internal improvement, may own and conduct proper business enterprises, may loan or give its credit to, or in aid of, any association, or corporation, and may become the owner of the capital stock of corporations, organized for such purposes. But any such association or corporation shall be subject to regulation and control by the state as may be provided by law. No money of the state shall be appropriated, or indebtedness incurred for any of the purposes of this section, except by the vote of two-thirds of the members of each branch of the legislature. * * * The limit of indebtedness contained in Section 2 of this article shall not apply to the provisions of this section, but the indebtedness of the state for the purpose contained in this section, other than for rural credits, shall never exceed one-half of one per cent of the assessed valuation of the property of the state."

(Note that this is limited to one-half of one per cent or about seven million two hundred thousand dollars.)

§ Note-See "State Industries" elsewhere in this pamphlet.

SOUTH DAKOTA'S TEN YEAR RECORD

Brief Review of the More Important Laws Enacted from 1907 up to and Including the Legislative Session of 1917

PROGRESSIVE LAWS

It is my candid opinion that South Dakota is far in advance of other states in the passage of Progressive Laws, of laws tending to afford greater protection and to throw greater safe guards around the individual citizen and to secure for the individual as well as for the state the largest measure of success which can result from favorable laws, and to abolish existing evils.

While I do not believe it is necessary for the information of the people of the state to mention all Progressive Laws which have been passed in their interests, I am also of the opinion that it will serve a useful purpose to present here a short, brief review of the most important laws:

LAWS PASSED AT THE TENTH SESSION OF 1907

A law defining and prohibiting unfair competition and discrimination and requiring the Attorney General to enforce it.

A law prohibiting corporations from making campaign contributions and providing heavy penalties for its violation.

A law regulating election campaign expenses and requiring accounts to be kept and filed showing the amount expended and providing heavy penalties for the violation of the law.

A law providing for a State Food and Dairy Commission and a Dairy Expert.

A law to prevent the adulteration, misbranding and imitation of goods, beverages and condiments, candies, drugs, medicines, meats and fish, and to regulate the manufacture and sale thereof.

A law to prevent fraud in and to regulate the manufacture of creamery butter.

A law regulating the sale of stock food in this state.

A law to insure the safety, health and comfort of guests at hotels, inns and lodging houses.

A law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor within given distances of schools, churches, colleges and academies.

The Anti Lobby Law to abolish the evil of lobbying with members of the legislature.

A law requiring railroads to build connecting tracks between different lines of railway.

A Primary Election Law and direct vote on United States Senators.

A law requiring the Railroad Commission to fix passenger rates at two and one-half cents per mile.

A law prohibiting railroads from abandoning stations without the consent of the Railroad Commission.

A law compelling railroads to pay demurrage charges to shippers or Reciprocal Demurrage Law.

A law fixing the liability of railroads to their employees and abolishing the law of contributory negligence.

Limiting the hours of service of railway employees to sixteen hours and re-quiring rest periods of ten hours off duty.

Anti Pass Law forbidding railway companies from issuing passes.

Placing the burden of proof on railway companies in suits to set aside orders of the railroad commission.

Providing for the physical valuation of all railroad properties by the Railroad Commission.

Forbidding railroad companies from making contracts limiting their Common Law Liability.

A law levying a tax of one and one-fourth mills to complete and operate the twine plant of the State Penitentiary.

Submitting a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to classify property and classifying inheritances, devises, legacies, and bequests and to provide for a graduated or progressive inheritance tax and to classify incomes and provide a graduated income tax.

LAWS PASSED IN 1909

A law authorizing the Railroad Commission to prosecute actions before the Interstate Commerce Commission. This has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars to the state.

Submitting a constitutional amendment for the leasing of school lands for pasturage, meadow, farming, growing of grain and general agricultural purposes.

Electric Headlight Law. (Referenced and defeated by the voters.)

A law compelling railroad companies to report to the Railroad Commission the number of elevators, warehouses and coal sheds and the amount of rent paid by each.

Standard Life Insurance Law. Protects persons insured. A law creating the Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

A law giving the States Attorney the same number of peremptory challenges as allowed to the defendant's attorney in criminal cases.

Submitting a constitutional amendment for taxation reform and proper classification of property for purposes of taxation.

An act providing for the selection of sixty-two thousand twenty-nine acres of land from the government public lands in this state for the support of schools in place of that included by the government in the Forest Reserve. (Under this law we got the land.)

A law prohibiting marriages between white and black persons.

An Anti Trust Law defining and prohibiting trusts, monopolies and agreements in restraint of trade and promoting free competition in this state and providing heavy penalties for violation.

A law requiring the interests on all state funds to be paid into the state treasury.

A law providing for a State Health Laboratory at the University.

A law providing a cause of action for the injury or death of any person.

A law providing that where there are no heirs the property of a deceased person shall go to the state and fixing the procedure for securing possession of such property. (Under this law the McClelland estate was recovered and over \$100,000 worth of property was recovered for the state.)

A law prohibiting gambling upon passenger trains.

A law reducing express rates.

A law appropriating money and providing for the manufacture and distribution of Hog Cholera Serum.

A law creating a State Live Stock Sanitary Board.

A law compelling railroads to fence their right-of-way.

A law compelling railroads to provide sanitary toilets at -stations.

A law requiring railroad companies to report wrecks and accidents to Railroad Commission.

A law prohibiting the drinking of intoxicating liquors on passenger trains. Abolishing the law of assumed risk in action by employees against Railroad Companies.

Compelling railroad companies to place lights on switches and to keep the same lighted from dark until daylight.

Compelling railroad companies to settle claims within a limited time and permitting the recovery of interest and attorney's fees if suit is necessary.

Compelling railroads to build stock yards and to provide water supply. water troughs and feed racks.

Giving Railroad Commission jurisdiction to regulate telephone rates and service.

Making an allowance to dependent families of prisoners in the State Penitentiary for labor performed by the prisoner.

Submitting a tax reform amendment, making provision for the classification of property and an improved up-to-date method of taxation. (This amendment defeated by the voters.)

LAWS PASSED IN 1911

A law creating an Executive Accountant to examine all accounts of state officers, departments, boards, commissions and all state institutions as well as counties and cities. (Large sums of money recovered to counties under this law.)

A law requiring the publication in official papers of a list of adulterated preparations and products reported on by the Pure Food and Drug Commissioner.

A law amending and enlarging the scope and strengthening the provisions of the Pure Food and Drug Act and providing for its better enforcement.

A law providing for the equipment of the buildings and a lighting plant in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Custer.

A law to provide for the organization of Co-operative Associations.

A law relating to Dairy Experts and requiring all buildings and containers used for the manufacture and sale of dairy products to be kept in a clean, hygienic and sanitary condition.

A law defining Demonstration Farms and providing for their location, maintenance and management.

A law giving the Board of Railroad Commissioners authority to regulate express rates and make schedules of express rates. (See Title "Express Rates" in this booklet.)

Electric Headlight Law. (Referended and this time indorsed by the voters.) The Daylight Saloon Law.

A law reorganizing the Banking Department and placing Trust Companies as well as banks under the control and supervision of the State Bank Examiner.

An act giving the Board of Railroad Commissioners authority to fix the rental to be paid for warehouses, elevators, coal sheds or other building sites on railroad rights-of-way.

A law simplifying appeals to the Supreme Court.

A law relating to common carriers and conferring additional powers on the Railroad Commission.

Railroad Employers Liability Law.

A safety law prescribing the kind of cabooses for freight trains.

Compelling railway and express companies to settle and pay claims for damages and overcharges within a specified time.

Denying railroad companies the right to insert in Live Stock Shipping Contracts, provisions limiting their liability.

Requiring railroad companies to build railroad crossings when ordered to do

so by town or city officials or township supervisors or County Commissioners.

Regulating the kind of cars to be furnished for shipping grain. Giving County Commissioners authority to furnish seed grain.

Appropriating money to build an addition to the Creamery at the Agricultural College.

Regulating the sale and distribution of Stock Foods.

LAWS PASSED IN 1913

Prohibiting the publication of misleading or untruthful advertisements. Appropriating money for the growing and distributing of hardy alfalfa seed. Appropriating money for the State Dairymen's and Buttermakers' Association.

Creating a State Board of Health and Medical Examiners and regulating the practice of medicine in this state.

The Bulk Sales Law.

Submitting an amendment for a Constitutional Convention. (Defeated by the voters.)

Uniform law for the organization of Co-operative Associations or Companies. Allowing a defendant to plead guilty at any time and receive immediate sentence even though no term of court is in session.

Further simplifying appeals to the Supreme Court.

Prohibiting the issuance of injunctions or restraining orders to enjoin or restrain state officers or boards in the performing of their duties.

Allowing for the transportation of school children to township district schools. Revising the law relating to Executive Accountant.

Providing for the holding of Farmers' Institutes.

Fixing the hours of employment and the conditions under which women, girls and children shall work.

Simplifying the criminal procedure in the courts of this state and providing for a simple form of indictment and complaint in criminal actions. A new Inheritance Tax Law.

Mothers Pension Law.

State Printing Law. (See Title "State Printing Commissioner" elsewhere in this booklet.)

Compelling all state officers to make annual inventory of property belonging to the state.

Providing for the construction of spur or stub tracks to industrial or manufacturing plants and giving the Board of Commissioners jurisdiction.

Providing for the recovery of excess charges from railroad and express companies.

Compelling railroad companies to furnish platforms for loading and unloading heavy machinery.

Compelling railway companies to carry passengers on freight trains.

Creating a State Securities Commission or "Blue Sky" Commission to regulate the sale of stocks and bonds by corporations.

The Pure Seed Law.

Giving the Railroad Commission power to compel railway and express companies to furnish monthly reports.

Amending the law relating to Stock Foods and requiring the Pure Food and Drug Commissioner to enforce it.

Creating a State Tax Commission.

Prohibiting unfair competition and discrimination.

Establishing weights and measures for the sale of grain and seeds of all kinds.

Appropriating ten thousand dollars for the purpose of securing Russian and Siberian alfalfa seed for distribution in this state.

Submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for a Board of Control of three members to take the place of the Board of Charities and Corrections, five members, and the Soldier's Home Board of three members. In other words to create a Board of Control of three persons to perform the duties of two Boards composed of eight persons. (Defeated by the voters.)

Submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution for calling in additional and the forming of irrigation districts, at the requests of persons residing in the western part of the state. (Defeated by voters.)

Submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for irrigation and forming of irrigation districts, at the requests of persons residing in the western part of the state. (Defeated by voters.)

The corrupt practices act prohibiting the use of money and corrupt practices in primaries and elections.

A law providing for a Free Library Commission and Free Traveling Libraries.

Hotel Keepers Liability Law;

Prohibiting the running of automobiles or motor vehicles by persons under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

A law authorizing the Board of Railroad Commissioners to compel railway companies to light railway crossings and to install crossing alarms in towns or cities.

A law compelling Railroad Commissioners to live at the Capital and the Board of Railroad Commissioners to remain in continuous session at the Capitol.

A law prohibiting state officers or employees from drawing more than one salary or per diem.

Uniform Warehouse Law.

A law fixing the standards of weights and measures for grains and vegetables and regulating the dockage and sale of grain in this state.

LAWS PASSED IN 1915

Submitting proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for Rural Credits. (Carried and now in operation.)

Submitting amendment to the Constitution to enable legislature to provide for irrigation districts in response to the demand from persons residing in the western part of the state. (Carried and law passed.)

Submitting prohibition amendment to the Constitution. (Carried, and legislation putting it into effect now on statute books.)

Submitting an amendment for a Constitutional Convention.

A joint resolution requesting Congress to compel the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company to build a bridge across the Missouri River at Chamberlain.

Accepting provisions of Smith-Lever Act of Congress providing for Co-operative Extension work by Agricultural Colleges in the several states.

Amending laws relating to Chattel Mortgages and prohibiting the Mortgaging of crops and earnings of threshing machines.

Amending the- Mothers Pension Law.

Prohibiting railroads from increasing rates without consent of the Railroad Commission. (A very important law.)

Authorizing shippers to build track scales on railroads.

Compelling railroads to file schedule of rates with the Railroad Commission thirty days before taking effect and authorizing the Railroad Commission to reject any schedule not filed the required length of time.

Giving Railroad Commission power to inspect all scales weighing one ton or more, including stock yard and track scales.

Appropriating five thousand dollars for expenses of Railroad Commission in the Western Advance Rate case of 1915 before the Interstate Commerce Commission. (All proposed advances were defeated and saved people of state hundreds of thousands of dollars.)

Bank Guaranty Law. (Makes the Banks safe.)

Appropriating money to pay for animals affected by Glanders and killed by order of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board.

A law providing for the treatment, control, maintenance, adoption and guardianship of dependents, neglected or delinquent children.

A law prohibiting the sale, barter, distribution, storing or giving away of opium, cocoa leaves or any compound thereof or any salt, derivative or preparation thereof.

A law providing that pupils studying agriculture shall be taught how to apply the tuberculin test.

A law amending the law relating to the sale of concentrated commercial feed stuffs and medical stock foods.

Submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for a reform in taxation and classification of property, inheritances and incomes for taxation purposes. (Defeated by the voters again.)

A law giving the Board of Railroad Commissioners power to grant reparation or to compel railway or express companies or other common carriers to refund excessive rates and charges.

LAWS PASSED IN 1917

Amending the laws relating to abstracts of title and protecting the public against errors in abstracts of title.

A law enlarging the scope and operation of agricultural extension work. An act amending the Agricultural Pure Seed Law.

A law relating to the registration of Alfalfa Seed farms.

A law creating a committee and making an appropriation for investigation into terminal elevators, flour mills and packing houses.

A law appropriating money for a live stock and poultry building at Mitchell. Appropriating money to pay for animals destroyed by order of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board on account of Dourine Infection.

Appropriating money to pay for animals afflicted with Glanders and killed by order of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board.

Appropriating money for the addition to the building for the manufacture of Hog Cholera Serum at the State Agricultural College.

Appropriation for a Poultry Department at the State Agricultural College. Authorizing Railroad Commission to take part in the valuation of railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

A new and improved law for the assessment and taxation of express companies, car companies, sleeping car companies and telegraph and telephone companies as well as for the collection of delinquent taxes.

A law creating a Commission to investigate into the coal mining proposition. (See Title "State Coal Supply" in this booklet.

Revision of the laws of this state relating to joint drainage with adjacent states. (South Dakota-Minnesota Drainage.)

A law providing for a State Educational Survey.

A law accepting the benefits of the act of Congress relating to Vocational Education.

A law creating a Grain Inspection and Marketing Commissioner Department. Bone Dry Prohibition Law.

Workmen's Compensation Law

Employer's Liability Insurance Law.

A law providing for the irrigation or the forming of Irrigation Districts and the issuing of bonds for irrigation purposes.

Prohibiting the I. W. W.'s from stealing trains and from stealing rides on trains.

A law giving the Railroad Commission power to require railway companies to put in electric lights at depots.

A law relating to Rural Credits and providing for the loaning of money to farmers on thirty years time at a low rate of interest.

A law providing for a state sheriff to enforce the Bone Dry Prohibition Law and Criminal Laws of this state and to handle the I. W. W. difficulty. State Budget Law.

Amending the Law of 1911 creating a State Highway Commission and accepting the benefits of federal aid and providing for the standardization and construction of highways under an expert highway engineer. Torrens Land Title Law.

Submitting a Constitutional Amendment which will permit the Supreme Court to call in additional judges whenever any judge of the Supreme Court is interested or disqualified to sit in a case pending before that court.

Submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution for the sale of school lands on thirty years time at five per cent interest and a one-tenth part of the purchase price in cash.

Submitting and proposing an amendment to the Constitution which will author-

ize the legislature to pass much needed legislation putting into effect a reform, up to-date system of taxation.

Submitting and proposing amendment authorizing the state to engage in work of internal improvement including terminal elevators, flour mills, packing houses, etc.

Submitting and proposing an amendment to the Constitution for the development of water power on the streams of this state.

Submitting and proposing an amendment to enable the state to engage in the manufacture of cement and cement products.

Submitting and proposing an amendment for State Hail Insurance.

Providing for County Dipping Vats for the dipping of live stock affected with scabbies or mange, to be constructed and operated by the Counties under the general supervision of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board.

The foregoing are but a limited number of the Progressive Laws passed by the legislature of this state in the last ten years. It is my firm and honest conviction that South Dakota leads all other states in Progressive Legislation, and that our legislators have honestly and efficiently labored in the interests of our great state.

SOCIALISM

There has been much argument and misunderstanding as to what Socialism really means, but I think it well to let its advocates define it. According to the leaders of the Socialist party and to leading writers on Socialism it means common ownership of everything, brought about by a redistribution of property so that each person has exactly the same common interest.

Socialism is a beautiful dream. Everyone is to be on the pay-roll at a good salary and everybody's salary will be the same. Even the farms will be owned by all the people in common. Farms will not be rented on shares for in that way the best farmers would make the most money. Socialists do not consider it fair to permit this. Socialism does not offer any reward for individual effort or initiative. All are promised great things. No one will have to work more than a few hours a day. There will be no poverty, no vice, no crime, no jails, no disease. There will be no shirkers, selfishness will be banished from the earth, and each will do his very utmost for the public good. Thus we attain the millennium and there will be heaven on earth. One writer has put it well by saying that Socialism "is a pot into which everyone puts in as much as he pleases, and each takes out all he wants."

There are two classes of people who frequently advocate Socialism.. One is the Idealist who hopes to bring about the millennium on earth. The other is the man who wants more than he has been able to earn. Sometimes the latter is simply unfortunate, more often he has been incompetent or indolent. Frequently he is an agitator, has been and is unwilling to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. When on the farm he is a failure. He farms poorly, sows late, and harvests little. His live stock, machinery, and even the buildings he occupies are lacking in care and attention. He is jealous of his neighbor who makes more money. If he is in town he is no better off. He fails to do his work well, and, therefore, seldom holds a good job very long. Even in prosperous times he does not make ends meet. He is rated below the average by his fellow workers. He is the type who is strongly of the opinion that there should be redistribution of property in order that he may receive a larger share.

Those who are rich among us are the few. The hardship to be caused to them by the division of property need not be taken into serious consideration, but it is the man, who by hard labor, strict economy and self denial throughout the years has saved a few hundred or a few thousand dollars, or who has secured for himself a good farm by years of struggle, who should be protected against division with those who have wasted the days of their youth and have frittered their time away and argue that they have too little and that the man who worked hard and saved was not entitled to what he had.

I am not in favor of putting a premium on wastefulness, idleness, or dishonesty. I am not in favor of compelling the farmer to divide his land or his property with the I. W. W. or even with the harmless and slovenly loafer. Property earned by hard and earnest effort should be left in the hands of the rightful owner.

Where there is an accumulation of large fortunes there must be a distribution, but a graduated income tax will be quite effective and a large and graduated inheritance tax will certainly bring the desired results.

The state is an organization of individuals for the public good. Its purpose should be to secure for each what he fairly earns and to give proper assistance to those who through unfortunate circumstances have been unable to do well, but the rule is unjust which provides that those who do the least and poorest work should have the same compensation as those who are more industrious.

There has been a great necessity for the government, either national or state, to take over natural monopolies as well as to control and regulate industries, which have gotten outside of the influence of competition, in other words, that are controlled by trusts.

Some people object to this on the ground that it is Socialism. Even some of the Socialists claim that it is, but I do not consider that government ownership or control of monopolies is Socialism. It is a public necessity. It is common sense. I care little by what name people prefer to designate it. We must have it. The first and all important thing for the people is protection against monopolies, such as comes from the control by public utilities, and from extortionate prices for necessities required for "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness".

Where men attempt to extort an unreasonable profit it is the business of the government to step in and regulate it and where the regulation can best be had by government ownership and operation this plan should be adopted.

To my mind we cannot remedy all our ills by the state or federal government owning every industry. There are many things which an individual can do better than the state. There is grave danger in paternalism. There is danger even in a large government pay-roll. The tax payers may have to pay it. There is also danger that government ownership will check invention, suppress individual initiative and retard development. In other words, delay progress. Take our automobile industry for example. Suppose that it had been taken over by the government ten or fifteen years ago, Does anyone believe that there would have been as much progress in invention and perfection? Would we today have had the highly developed automobile? Would we have had the cheap and efficient Ford Car? Is not all this the result of individual initiative, coupled with competition? Has not competition been the incentive?

On the other hand, if the automobile manufacturers should hereafter successfully combine, control the market and extort unreasonable profits, the government must step in and fix the price or take over the business and manage it. To my mind the price fixing would be the safer and more practical plan.

We now have the Socialist agitators who, having failed to receive serious consideration in the past, have formed a new organization and now claim to be the particular friends of our farmers. They advocate strongly that the state should take over various manufacturing industries and should enter many and various enterprises. They insist on doing everything at once without proper preparation or investigation and on using the credit of the state without limit. They insist there should be no limit to indebtedness. To use their own phrase, they say, "The Sky is the Limit". They try to conceal the fact that the state's credit is just another name for the tax payers' money. Again they are over-looking the fact that we cannot get something for nothing and, that some day will be pay day; that an unprofitable enterprise will have losses and the losses must be paid by higher taxes.

The state must protect its people, and should proceed along safe and sane lines. We should take over only those industries which public necessity requires, and where we would be reasonably sure that there would be no loss which would have to be made up out of additional taxes. We should start gradually and not attempt to do it all at one time. Our constitution should be liberalized but the

lid should not be taken off entirely as was proposed in the resolution for a constitutional amendment which was introduced by Senator Dowdell. He said it was the "North Dakota Plan". It provided that the State could go into any line of industry without any limit of indebtedness.

Reasonable restrictions and the exercise of good, common horse sense may save us from the experiences some of our counties had in the early territorial days, when, for instance Yankton County incurred a bonded indebtedness of \$300,000 in order to assure the building of a railroad into the county. The sum was enormous. The necessity for the railroad was great, the temptation was strong; the indebtedness was taken on. It took more than forty years to pay the debt. It would have been better to have waited a few years more for the railroad. There is even a limit as to how fast it is wise for the state to go into different industries and enterprises. A bunch of enthusiasts having political control might in a few years saddle an indebtedness on the state which would take generations to lift.

South Dakota did well and is going far enough for the present in submitting constitutional amendments permitting the state to go into different lines of industry and enterprises, developing water power, building cement plants, developing coal mines, constructing terminal elevators, packing houses and mills, but the safe-guard lies in the fact that the indebtedness aside from the water power development, will be limited to about seven million two hundred thousand dollars. If we go into these lines and are successful the voters will authorize increases in the limit of indebtedness if this is found to be wise or necessary. Certainly the School Fund should not be used in adventures of this kind. The School Fund should be held sacred to the purposes for which it was established. Proper safeguards are thrown about this fund by provisions in our constitution. It has worked out well. Cheap money has been furnished to our farmers. The money is out on safe security and the interest goes to maintain our schools.

SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS

The state owes the children residing within its borders the best obtainable education so as to properly prepare them for the duties of citizenship and to better equip them for the struggle incident to human life. To this end we must have good, first class text books of the highest quality. These school books should be uniform and furnished to the pupils at the lowest obtainable price.

If we are to have cheaper school books there must be uniformity as uniformity in the subject matter is a large factor in making up the purchase price, in that it contributes to a reduction in cost because of the large number necessary to supply all of the school children of the state.

Another large factor in the reduction of the purchase price is a single individual purchaser buying at one time all the school books to be used in the entire state.

This logically leads to a state system of uniform free school text books. This is coming. Why not now? Why not do it at the next regular session of the legislature? I am going to recommend it in my message.

THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE**(As taken from the 1917—18 Official Legislative Handbook)****MEMBERS OF THE SENATE**

Dist. No.	County	Name	Politics	Occupation	P. O. Address
1	Union	E. W. Ericson	Rep.	Farmer	Alcester
2	Clay	Carl Gunderson	Rep.	Merchant	Vermillion
3	Yankton	Thos. J. Frick	Dem.	Live Stock	Yankton
4	Bon Homme	J. H. Stephens	Rep.	Farmer	Springfield
5	Lincoln	J. Kuhns	Rep.	Farmer	Worthing
6	Turner	E. H. Odland	Rep.	Farmer	Hurley
7	Hutchinson	John W. Peckham	Rep.	Editor	Parkston
8	Charles Mix	W. F. Brooks	Dem.	Farmer	Lake Andes
9	Aurora & Douglas	E. P. Wanzer	Rep.	Lawyer	Armour
10	Minnehaha	A. L. Berg	Rep.	Farmer	Baltic
10	Minnehaha	J. E. Pearson	Rep.	Farmer	Ellis
11	Hanson & McCook	F. D. Peckham	Rep.	Banker	Alexandria
12	Miner & Sanborn	R. E. Dowdell	Dem.	Farmer	Artesian
13	Davison	Chas. E. Boreson	Rep.	Farmer	Mitchell
14	Perkins & Harding	G. G. Glendinning	Rep.	Editor	Ludlow
15	Lyman	Jno. M. Johnson	Rep.	Stockman	Presho
16	Brule, Buffalo and Jerauld	H. P. Will	Rep.	Stockman	Wess. Springs
17	Gregory	S. D. Sharp	Dem.	Laborer	Bonesteel
18	Moody	Robert Dailey	Dem.	Farmer	Flandreau
19	Lake	Hans Urdahl	Rep.	Lawyer	Madison
20	Brookings	M. G. Carlisle	Rep.	Real Estate	Brookings
21	Kingsbury	Charles A. Alseth	Rep.	Banker	Lake Preston
22	Beadle	W. W. Howes	Dem.	Lawyer	Wolsey
23	Hand and Hyde	Glen M. Waters	Rep.	Lawyer	Miller
24	Hughes and Sully	G. H. Jaynes	Rep.	Meat Market	Pierre
25	Stanley, Haakon and Jackson	Wm. H. Frost	Dem.	Hardware	Fort Pierre
26	Tripp, Mellette and Bennett	Wm. McClintock	Dem.	Farmer	Hamil
27	Deuel and Hamlin	W. E. Whittemore	Rep.	Real Estate	Estelline
28	Codington	J. C. Southwick	Rep.	Abstracter	Watertown
29	Clark	George Lindland	Rep.	Farmer	Naples
30	Spink	R. W. Labrie	Rep.	Farmer	Doland
31	Grant	C. S. Amsden	Rep.	Live Stock	Milbank
32	Roberts	Andrew Marvick	Rep.	Real Estate	Sisseton
33	Marshall	Carl J. Mohr	Rep.	Real Estate	Kidder
34	Day	Donald C. McLean	Rep.	Stock Raising	Webster
35	Browns	Isaac Lincoln	Rep.	Banker	Aberdeen
35	Brown	Jay Reeves	Rep.	Lawyer	Groton
36	Faulk, Potter & Dewey ..	A. M. Moore	Rep.	Banker	Faultkton
37	Edmunds, Corson and Walworth	F. J. Milliman	Rep.	Editor	Morristown
38	McPherson & Campbell ..	Jno. Rossow	Rep.	Farmer	Herreid
39	Lawrence & Butte	T. R. Stoner	Rep.	Merchant	Lead
39	Lawrence & Butte	D. R. Evans	Rep.	Stockman	Belle Fourche
40	Pennington	W. F. Haafke	Rep.	Banker	Rapid City
41	Meade & Ziebach	J. D. Hale	Dem.	Live Stock	Sturgis
42	Custer & Fall River	David Anderson	Dem.	Merchant	Ardmore

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dist. No.	County	Name	Politics	Occupation	P. O. Address
1	Union	A. S. Disbrow	Rep.	Farmer	Alcester
1	Union	W. L. Bergren	Dem.	Farmer	Beresford
2	Clay	John Frieberg	Rep.	Farmer	Vermillion
3	Yankton	Gilbert Larson	Rep.	Farmer	Menno
3	Yankton	Emil Erickson	Rep.	Farmer	Irene
4	Bon Homme	C. C. Torrence	Rep.	Farmer	Tabor
4	Bon Homme	T. M. McCollum	Dem.	Farmer	Springfield
5	Lincoln	S. Paulson	Rep.	Farmer	Hudson
5	Lincoln	Tohn Evenson	Rep.	Farmer	Harrisburg
6	Turner	E. H. Withee	Rep.	Retired Farmer	Parker
6	Turner	John Widlon	Rep.	Newspaper	Viborg
6	Turner	Chas. E. Sanborn	Rep.	Farmer	Hurley
7	Hutchinson	T. J. Wahl	Rep.	Farmer	Emery
7	Hutchinson	P. P. Kleinsasser	Rep.	Farmer	Freeman
8	Douglas	L. E. Houlton	Rep.	Banker	Delmont
9	Charles Mix	Henry J. Hansen	Dem.	Farmer	Platte
9	Charles Mix	Delos M. Woods	Dem.	Farmer	Ravinia

Dist.No.	County	Name	Politics	Occupation	P. O. Address
9	Charles Mix.....	John Stedronsky	Dem.	Merchant	Wagner
10	Minnehaha.....	Wm. H. Lyons	Rep.	Lawyer	Sioux Falls
10	Minnehaha.....	Wm. C. Bessler	Rep.	Grocer	Sioux Falls
10	Minnehaha.....	C. O. Berdahl	Rep.	Insurance	Garretson
10	Minnehaha.....	A. N. Graff	Rep.	Merchant	Brandon
10	Minnehaha.....	G. K. Groth	Rep.	Merchant	Humboldt
11	McCook.....	R. J. Odell	Rep.	Hardware	Montrose
11	McCook.....	J. T. Gurney	Rep.	Retired Farmer.....	Spencer
12	Hanson	H. D. Thompson	Rep.	Farmer	Fulton
13	Davison.....	Arthur Miller	Rep.	Auto Garage	Mitchell
13	Davison.....	F. C. Hoffman	Rep.	Farmer	Farmer
14	Sanborn	E. R. Judy	Rep.	Banker	Forestburg
15	Aurora.....	John B. Tripp	Rep.	Farmer	White Lake
16	Jerauld	D. M. Brenneeman	Dem.	Farmer	Wess. Springs
17	Brule.....	E. B. Lumbard	Rep.	Banker	Kimball
18	Miner	Peter Gudahl	Rep.	Farmer	Oldham
19	Gregory	Frank Mace	Rep.	Hotel.....	Bonesteel
19	Gregory	C. A. Burkhardt	Rep.	Farmer	Dixon
20	Lake	I A. Baldwin	Rep.	Farmer	Wentworth
20	Lake	John H. Groce	Rep.	Banker	Ramona
21	Moody	Lewis Benson	Rep.	Lawyer	Flandreau
22	Brookings.....	Geo. N. Kennard	Rep.	Farmer	Brookings
22	Brookings.....	A. B. Dalthorp	Rep.	Real Estate	Volga
22	Brookings.....	Nels Rushoi	Rep.	Retired Farmer.....	Brookings
23	Kingsbury	C. H. Armstrong.....	Rep.	Farmer	Arlington
23	Kingsbury	Peter H. Schultz.....	Rep.	Merchant	Iroquois
24	Beadle.....	A. B. Blake	Rep.	Insurance	Huron
24	Beadle.....	C. W. Best	Rep.	Farmer	Huron
24	Beadle.....	C. R. Huntley.....	Dem.	Farmer	Huron
25	Hand.....	Ben F. Magness	Dem.	Stockman	St. Lawrence
26	Hughes	Lew W. Sandys	Rep.	Lawyer	Pierre
27	Stanley, Haakon and Jackson	John I. Howe	Rep.	Banker	Cottonwood
27	Stanley, Haakon and Jackson	J. C. Rounds.....	Rep.	Rancher	Interior
27	Stanley, Haakon and Jackson	Henry L. Jeffries	Dem.	Farmer	Sansarc
28	Lyman.....	E C. Hall	Rep.	Real Estate	Vivian
28	Lyman.....	Henry McGrath.....	Rep.	Rancher	Oacoma
29	Deuel.....	P. J. Peterson	Rep.	Grain Dealer	Brandt
30	Hamlin	G. I. Ruden	Rep.	Educator	Hayti
31	Codington	T. G. McFarland.....	Rep.	Lawyer	Watertown
31	Codington	Hans Mathiesen.....	Rep.	Farmer	Watertown
31	Codington	J. C. Stein	Rep.	Farmer	Watertown
32	Clark.....	E. W. Anderson.....	Rep.	Farmer	Willow Lakes
32	Clark.....	Wm. Barkley.....	Rep.	Farmer	Garden City
33	Spink	Geo. R. Woodford.....	Rep.	Farmer	Mansfield
33	Spink	U. G. Johnson	Rep.	Real Estate	Redfield
33	Spink	Frank Gilby	Rep.	Farmer	Tulare
34	Grant	O. R. Olson	Rep.	Farmer	Summit
34	Grant	T. R. Birch	Rep.	Farmer	Albee
35	Roberts	Carston Eggen.....	Rep.	Attorney.....	New Effington
35	Roberts	Fred Evander.....	Rep.	Farmer	Rosholt
35	Roberts	Ole Moe	Rep.	Hardware	Summit
36	Marshall.....	Otto L. Kaas	Rep.	Lawyer	Britton
37	Day.....	T. P. Byron	Rep.	Stockman	Bristol
37	Day.....	August Knebel	Rep.	Farmer	Lily
37	Day.....	A. C. Roberts	Rep.	Farmer	Pierpont
38	Brown	O. A. Swanson	Rep.	Banker	Aberdeen
38	Brown	Elmer L. Cole.....	Rep.	Retired Farmer.....	Claremont
38	Brown	James Daulton	Rep.	Live Stock	Aberdeen
38	Brown	T M. Anderson.....	Rep.	Farmer	Frederick
39	Faulk	Wilson Brown	Rep.	Farmer	Athol
40	Potter.....	F. R. Patterson.....	Rep.	Real Estate	Lebanon
41	Edmunds	Chas. H. Rebrud	Rep.	Farmer	Ipswich
42	Walworth.....	Arne Strand.....	Rep.	Farmer	Selby
43	Campbell.....	G. G. Titland.....	Rep.	Farmer	Mound City
44	McPherson	Jacob Muehlbeier	Rep.	Farmer	Martel
45	Custer.....	W. A. Nevin.....	Rep.	Farmer	Custer
46	Fall River.....	W. A. Guilfoyle.....	Rep.	Lawyer	Edgemont
47	Pennington.....	John N. Hamm	Rep.	Stockman	Caputa
47	Pennington.....	Zacharias Holmes	Rep.	Civil Engineer	Rapid City
48	Lawrence.....	Damon H. Clark.....	Rep.	Mining	Lead
48	Lawrence.....	C. M. Spargo	Rep.	Engineer	Lead
48	Lawrence.....	Will T. Hursh	Rep.	Mining	Deadwood
48	Lawrence.....	D. R. Thompson.....	Rep.	Farmer	Spearfish
49	Meade.....	H. C. Judson.....	Dem.	Rancher	Viewfield

Dist. No.	County	Name	Politics	Occupation	P. O. Address
49	Meade	Samuel H. Martin	Dem.	Farmer	Whitewood
50	Butte	W. D. Buchholz	Rep.	Lawyer	Newell
61	Hyde	Geo. M. Steele	Rep.	Auctioneer	Highmore
52	Sully	James E. Temmey	Rep.	Lawyer	Onida
53	Buffalo	J B. Ingerson	Rep.	Farmer	Gann Valley
54	Mellette, Tripp & Bennett	C. E. Kell	Rep.	Lawyer	White River
55	Harding	Albert Sherill	Dem.	Physician	Camp Crook
56	Perkins	A. N. Hoffman	Rep.	Merchant	Bixby
56	Perkins	R. W. Scott	Rep.	Merchant	Whitney
57	Corson	J. R. Shirey	Rep.	Banker	McLaughlin
58	Dewey & Ziebach	J. L. Parrott	Rep.	Real Estate	Timber Lake
59	Hamlin & Deuel	A. W. Bartels	Rep.	Real Estate	Gary

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